'hartals', particularly when militants are killed, etc. in a bid to try and disrupt normal life and derail the political and democratic system. The Government are aware of these designs. A close and continuous watch is being kept on the situation and all necessary efforts, including sustained operations against terrorists and subveresive elements, are being made to ensure that such designs are not allowed to succeed. In the process, a number of successful operations have also been conducted recently by the local police and the Security Forces which have led to further desperation in the ISI sponsored militants and secessionist groups.

Employment to Kashmir Youths under Centrally-sponsored Schemes

2739. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have compiled any data about the number of those Kashmir youths/persons who were victimized and turned militant in Kashmir valley; if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government adopt uniform attitude towards them while considering their rehabilitation; and

(c) the number of Kashmiri youths provided employment during the last one year under Centrally-sponsored employment schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN): (a) and (b) Keeping in view that a large number of people in Jammu & Kashmir have become victims of terrorist violence, the Government have formulated a scheme for rehabilitation of such victims, viz: widows and orphans etc. The benefits of the scheme would also be available to widows and- orphans of persons who may have been involved in militancy. In addition, the Government is also taking steps for implementing a rehabilitation package for militants who surrender and come into the mainstream. Since these schemes are in the process of operationalisation, it is not possible to give precise statistics and number of persons who may be benefited.

(b) The targets for employment generation under Centrally Sponsored Schemes being operated by the Government of Jammu & Kashmir during the current financial year are as under:—

PRMY (Prime Minister's Rojgar Yojna)	3100 units
Self Employment	6200 units
Jawahar Rojgar Yojna	47.27 lakh mandays
Employment Assurance Scheme	174.73 lakh mandays
Integrated Rural Development Programme	25,000 beneficiaries

In addition, 12,205 youth from the State have been recruited upto December 1996 in various Central Government Departments, including Central Police Organisations and Public Sector Undertakings etc.

Renewable Energy Generation in the Country

2740. DR. B.B. DUTTA: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) what has been the share of renewable energy in the total energy generation in the country;

(b) the target set for renewable energy generation in the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(c) how far this target has been achieved, and

(d) the details of progress made over

the past one decade in harnessing renewable energy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD): (a) The total installed capacity of conventional power in the country is 84,200 MW and the total installed capacity of renewable energy based power is 1100 MW. Thus, the share of renewable energy in the total power generation capacity of the country is 1.3%.

(b) and (c) The targets set and achievements made under various renewable enejgy programmes of the Ministry during the Eighth Five Year Plan period are given in the Statement-I *(See* below).

The details of progress made over the past one decade in harnessing various renewable energy sources is given in Statement-II *(See* below).

Statement I

Details of programme-wise targets set and achievements made during the Eighth Five year Plan.

SI. No.	Name of programme/ Scheme/Projects	8th Plan approved Targets	Achievements (As on 28.2.97)
1.	Family size Biogas Plants (Nos. in lakhs)	7.50	8.67*
2.	CBP/1BP/NBP (Nos.)	450	1084*
3.	Improved Chulha (Nos. in lakhs)	100	115*
4.	Stand-alone Bibmass Gasifiers (MW)	23	17 @
5.	Integrated Rural Energy Programme (No. of Blocks covered)	500	408
6.	Solar Photovoltaic (MW)	3	5.18
	(a) Photovoltaic Power (Kwp)	1720	804
	(b) Photovoltaic Domestic Lighting System (Nos.)		36954
	(c) Photovoltaic Lanterns (Nos.)	25,000	1,19,697
	(d) Photovoltaic Street Lights (Nos.)		4623
	(e) Photovoltaic Pumping Systems (Nos.)	3000	1832
7.	Solar Thermal Systems (Area in m2)	2,75,000	1,71,562
8.	Solar Cookers (Nos.)	3,00,000	1,88,429
9.	Wind Power (MW)	100	793*

SI. No.	Name of programme/ Scheme/Projects	8th Plan approved Targets	Achieve roetttE (As on 28.2.97)
10.	Small Hydro Power (MW)	200	238**
11.	Biomass based Power (MW)	25	65

* As on 31st January, 1997
@ As on 31-12-1996
** Capacity sanctioned
CBP = Community Biogas Plants
IBP = Institutional Biogas Plants
NBP = Night Soil Based Biogas Plants
KWP = Kilo-Watt Peak.

Statement II

Details of Progress made under the major Non-conventional energy programmes for (harnessing Renewable Energy) over the past one decade.

SI.No	Name of programme	Achievements Made (As on 28.2.97)
1.	Biogas Plants (Nos in lakhs)	18.34'
2.	CBP/1BP/NBP (Nos)	1638*
3.	Improved Chulha (Nos. in lakhs)	210*
4.	Stand-alone Biomass Gasifiers (MW)	23@
5.	Integrated Rural Energy Programme (No. of Blocks)	660
6.	Solar Photovoltaics	
	a. Photovoltaic Power Units (Kwp)	1270
	b. Photovoltaic Community Lights/TV& Community facility (Nos.)	875
	c. Photovoltaic Domestic Lights (Nos.)	48,071
	d. Photovoltaic Lanterns (Nos.)	19,697
	e. Photovoltaic Street Lights (Nos.)	31,259
	f. SPV Pumping Systems (Nos.)	2629
7.	Solar Thermal Systems (Area in m2) in lakhs	3.32
8.	Solar Cookers (No. in lakhs)	3.70
9.	Wind Power (MW)	833*
10.	Small Hydro Power (MW)	75
11.	Biomass—based Power (MW)	69

* As on January, 1997
@ As on 31.12.1996
Kwp = Kilo-watt Peak
CBP = Community Biogas Plants
IBP = Institutional Biogas Plants
NBP = Night Soil Based Biogas Plants

गैर-पारंपरिक ऊर्जा उत्पादन के क्षेत्र में निजी क्षेत्र की भागीदारी

2741.**श्री अजीत जोगी**:
श्री रामजीलाल:

क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे किः

(क) इस समय गैर –पांरपरिक ऊर्जा स्रोतों से विद्युत की कुल कितनी मात्रा का उत्पादन किया जा रहा है ;

(ख) क्या निजी क्षेत्र के उद्यमियों ने ऐसी परियोजना स्थापित करने हेतु प्रस्ताव प्रस्तुत किए हैं ; और;

(ग) यदि हां,तो इस क्षेत्र में रूचि दिखाने वाले उद्यमियों का ब्यौरा क्या है ?

गैर-पारंपरिक ऊर्जा स्त्रोत मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री(कैप्टन जय नारायण प्रसाद निषाद): (क)अब तक देश में अपारंपरिक ऊर्जा स्त्रात नामतः पवन,सौर,लमुमन,बिजली और बायोमास पर आधारित लमभग 1100 मेवा.समग्र उत्पादन क्षमता स्थापित की गई हैं।

(ख)और (ग) विभिन्न राज्यों में इन परियोजनाओं

को स्थापित करने में निजी क्षेत्र सक्रिय रूप से भाग ले रहा हैं ।कुल स्थापित विद्युत उत्पादन क्षमता में से 800 मेवा.से ज्यादा की परियोजना निजी क्षेत्र में स्थापित की गई है । ये परियोजनाएं उद्योगों द्वारा मुख्यतया अपनी कैप्टिव विद्युत ऊर्जा आवश्यकताओं को पूरा करने के लिए स्थापित की गई है । फिर भी,कतिपय परियोजनाओं में,विद्युत राज्य विद्युत बोड़ोंया तीसरी पाटी को भी बेची जा रही हैं । ये परियोजनाएं विभिन्न राज्य सरकारों और राज्य विद्युत बोड़ों दवारा सुलझाई जाती है ।

गैर-पांरपरिक ऊर्जा स्त्रोतों के माध्यम से विद्युत उत्पादन

2742.**श्री मूलचन्द मीणा**:

श्री अजीत जोगी:

क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या पवन चक्की और सौर ऊर्जा जैसे गैर-पारंपरिक ऊर्जा स्त्रोतों के माध्यम से विद्युत उत्पादन करने वाले साधन सस्ते है तथा देश में आसानी से उपलब्ध हैं;

(ख) यदि हां,तो ऐसे स्थानों पर जहां पवन चक्कियां तथा सौर ऊर्जा आसानी से उपलब्ध हो सकती हैं,तुलनात्मक रूप से अधिक लागत पर विद्युत उत्पादन करने के क्या कारण हैं ;

(ग) क्या सरकार के पास ऐसे स्थानों पर गैर-पारंपरिक ऊर्जा के माध्यम से विद्युत उत्पादन को बढ़ावा देने हेतु कोई प्रस्ताव हैं;और

(घ) यदि हां,तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या हैं ?

गैर-पारंपरिक ऊर्जा स्त्रोत मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (कैप्टन जय नारायण प्रसाद निषाद): (क) आर (2) पवन और सौर ऊर्जा जैसे अपरांपरिक ऊर्जा स्त्रोतों से विद्युत उत्पादन की लागत परंपरागत विद्युत की तुलना में फिलहाल अपेक्षाकृत ज्यादा है । फिर भी,यदि सभी प्रत्यक्ष और अप्रत्यक्ष आर्थिक राज सहायताओं,पर्यावरणीय और अन्य सामाजिक मूल्यों तथा बाह्रयताओं को शामिल करके पंरपरागतविद्युत की पूरी लागत को हिसाब में लिया जाए तो जीवन चक्र मूल्यों पर अपरांपरिक विद्युत उत्पादन की लागत परंपरागत विद्युत की तुलना में अनुकूल पड़ती है । सौर ऊर्जा या पवन संसाधनों से विद्युत उत्पादन स्थल-विशिष्ट है और न्यून क्षमता वाली है । यह परंपरागत ग्रिड विद्युत की प्रभावपूर्ण ढंग से आपूर्ति कर सकती है ।

(ग) और (घ) देश में सौर,पवन,बायोमास और लघुपन विद्युत संसाधनों पर आधारित लगभग 1100 मेवा.समग्र क्षमता पहले ही स्थापित की जा चुकी है । विभिन्न राज्यों में आगे की क्षमताओं की योजना बनाई जा रही है । ये परियोजनाएं राज्यों में वाणिज्यिक विकास को बढ़ावा देने के लिए तकनीकी-आर्थिक व्यवहार्यता और नीतियों पर निर्भर करेंगे ।

Wind Power Projects in Maharashtra

2743. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of wind power projects installed in Maharashtra, with details of location and capacity thereof;

(b) whether Government propose to increase the number of wind power projects and set up such project in that State, particularly in Nagpur; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (CAPT. JAI NARAIN PRASAD NISHAD): (a) The details of wind power projects installed in Maharashtra are given below:

Location	Capacity
Deogad (Sindhudurg Distt.)	1.100 MW
Vijaydurg	1.500 MW

(Sindhudurg Distt.) Chalkewadi (Satara Distt.) 2.770 MW

(b) and (c) Under the National Wind Resource Assessment Programme, eight sites have been identified in the State of Maharashtra so far which are considered suitable for wind power generation. No potential sites have been Identified in the Nagpur region so far. Further, projects in the State will depend on techno-economic viability and the policies of the State Government to encourage commercial developments.

Commercial Solar power projects in the country

2744. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal is under Government's consideration for establishing large-scale commercial solar power projects in the country, particularly in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTER OF NON- CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (CAPT. JAI NARAIN PRASAD NISHAD): (a) to (c) Grid

officers who are one level below the Board of Nationalised Banks, the CBI requires prior sanction of the Secretary of the administrative Ministry before initiating investigation. This is to prevent investigation into vexatious, frivolous and malicious complaints, which would demoralise officers at senior levels on the one hand and enable the CBI on the other to concentrate its attention on cases of serious nature.

अभ्यावेदनों/आवेदनों के संबंध में कार्यवाही न किये जाने के लिये उत्तरदायी अधिकारी

2746.**श्री नागमणि**: क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या कतिपया अधिकारियों को अभ्यावेदनों/ज्ञापनों एवं आवेदनों के संबंध में नियमों के अनुरूप कार्यवाही न किये जाने के लिये उत्तरदायी ठहराया गया हैं ;

(ख) यदि हां,तो ऐसे अधिकारियों के संबंध में ब्यौरा क्या हैं ; और

(ग) उनके विरूद्व किस प्रकार की कार्यवाही की गयी हैं ?

कार्मिक,लोक शिकायत और पेंशन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री तथा ससंदीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री(श्री एस.आर.बालसुब्रहमण्यन): (क) से (ग) लोक शिकायतों पर शीघ्र कार्रवाई करने हेतु केन्द्रीय सरकार के मंत्रालयों /विभागों में वरिष्ठ स्तर के अधिकारियों को लोक शिकायत निदेशक के रूप में पदनामित किया गया है । उन्हें कहा गया है कि वे लोक शिकायतों के निपटान पर निगरानी रखें और किये गये निपटान की तिमाही रूप से समीक्षा करें । आवेदनों को तत्काल निपटाने और शिष्टाचार दिखाने तथा ऐसे कर्मचारियों के विरूद्व जो कार्य के निपटान में विलंबकारी तरीके अपनाएं और जानबूझकर विलंब करें,अनुशासनिक कार्रवाई करने हेतु केन्द्रीय सिविल सेवा(आचरण) नियमावली,1964 में पर्याप्त प्रावधन किये गये हैं । लोक शिकायतों की पावती भेजने/अंतिम रूप से उनका निपटान करने के लिए समय-सीमा निर्धारित करने के संबंध में भी केन्द्रीय सचिवालय कार्यालय पद्वति नियम-पुस्तिका में प्रावधन किये गये हैं । इस संबंध में अलग-अलग मंत्रालयों/विभागों द्वारा कार्रवाई की जानी होती है । इस बारे में कर्मचारियों के खिलाफ की गई कार्रवाई से संबंधित कोई आंकड़े इस मंत्रालय में नहीं रखे जाते है ।

Termination of extension of Central Government Officers

2747. SHRI RAGHAVJI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to answers to Unstarred Questions 105 and 1345 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 21st November, 1996 and the 6th March, 1997, respectively, and state:

(a) whether Government propose to review the decision to grant extension to officers in Central Government Ministries/Departments and terminate extensions given to them; if not, the reasons therefor; and

(b) whether Government are con templating to give extensions to the Officers of the rank of Joint Secretary and above who are going to superannuate in the near future; if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN): (a) No, Sir. Extensions in service have been granted in the public interest.

(b) No, Sir.

CBI investigation into failure to apprehend Ottavio Quattrocchi

2748. SHRI ASHOK MITRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Bureau of Investigation would be asked to investigate into the reasons and circumstances leading to failure to apprehend or interrogate the Italian citizen, Ottavio Quattrocchi, in July, 1993, despite disclosure of facts

suggesting his involvement in the Bofors payments; and

(b) whether there is a prima facie evidence to suggest that the CBI was advised not to disturb Quattrocchi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN): (a) On the 23rd July, 1993, CBI became aware that Shri O. Quattrocchi was one of the appellants in the Bofors case which was dismissed by the Supreme Court of Switzerland on the 12th July, 1993. The matter concerning action against him was considered in the CBI, but for lack of evidence or documents concerning his involvement in the case other than being an appellant only, it was not considered legally feasible to take any action against him at that point of time. With the receipt of certain relevant documents from the Swiss authorities by the CBI in January, 1997, steps have been initiated by the CBI to have Shri Quattrocchi, who is presently residing in Malaysia, arrested and extradited to India.

(b) No, Sir.

Recruitment of women drivers

2749. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOW DHURY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to issue directions to recruit women drivers, if available, for driving Government cars, with a view to promote welfare of women; and

(b) if so, the action proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALA-SUBRAMONIYAN): (a) and (b) Instructions/directions have been issued by this Department prescribing method of recruitment and the scheme of promotion for staff car drivers. The directions make no discrimination in the matter of recruitment of staff car drivers on the basis of gender.

LPG distribution network in Maharastra Villages

2750. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether LPG distribtion agencies have been sanctioned for big villages and clusters of small villages in Maharashtra, to reduce the pressue on fuelwood used by villagers;

(b) if so, the details thereof, district -wise;

(c) the number of villages in Nagpur district of ihe State, covered so far under the LPG distribution network;

(d) whether Government propose to bring more villages under the network during 1997-98; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (e) As per the existing policy, LPG distributorships are planned to be opened in towns having population of 10,000 and above in a phased manner provided potential of the town including that of the adjoining villages within IS KMs radius is adeqate to sustain a viable LPG distributorship.

51 LPG distributorships have been included in the draft LPG Marketing Plan 1996—98 for Maharashtra including 3 locations for Nagpur District viz., Kalmeshwar, Dhaha, Narkhed**.**

Waiting list for LPG connections

2751. SHRI VIRENDRA KATARIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number and details of applications for LPG connections pending for the last five years, year-wise;

(b) whether it is a fact that at many places people had applied for LPG connections more than eight years ago; and

(c) if so, the reasons for their pendency and action taken by Government to provide LPG connections to such applicants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) The LPG waiting List in the country as on 1.1.1997 was about 142.03 lakhs. New LPG connections are released to the waitlisted persons according to the serial order of registration with the distributor concerned depending on new customer enrolment allotted to the distributor, which is made keeping in view the slack available with the distributor, waiting list and product availability. Release of connections is not based on the age of the registration.

The clearance of waitlisted persons varies from market to market and distributor to distributor all over the country. There is no State-wise uniform position. Efforts are constantly on to release LPG connections to applicants as early as possible. Plans have been drawn for higher availability . of LPG by increasing the capacity of existing production sources, putting up new plants and higher imports through existing and new facilities.

Consumption of LPG in Haryana, Punjab Uttar Pradesh and Himachal Pradesh

2752. SHRI MOHINDER SINGH KALYAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any assessment of the annual LPG consumption in Haryana, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh and Himachal Pradesh;

(b) if so, the estimated quantity of LPG required for domestic use in these States during the current year; and

(c) by when this requirement is likely to be met?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The total estimated quantity of LPG required for the existing customers of Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies for domestic use in Haryana, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh and Himachal Pradesh during 1996-97 is 857 TMT.

(c) The requirement of LPG of the existing customers is by and large, being fully met by the Public Sector Oil Companies.

Carrying forward the special Quota of M.Ps for LPG

2753. SHRI S.M. KRISHNA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether following withdrawal of special quota of M.Ps for LPG connection, their quota for January-April, 1997 yet to be exhausted, would be allowed to be carried forwarded beyond the deadline of 1st April, 1997 as per the criteria; and

(b) if not, what would be the fate of quota already issued in January, 1997, but is still to be exhausted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) Special quota of M.Ps for

LPG connections for the quarter January-March, 1997 which is yet to be exhausted can be utilised in the calendar year 1997 as per guidelines already printed on the front of Priority Voucher Booklet and on the reverse of each Special Priority Voucher i.e. "Priority Vouchers are valid only if issued during 1997". However, the question of discontinuing issue of priority vouchers to Members of Parliament is being examined in the light of the announcement made by Hon'ble Speaker Lok Sabha on 26.2.97 to discontinue priority connections to M.Ps from 1.4.97.

Increase in quota of bitumen for Gujarat

2754. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Gujarat has been pressing to increase the quota of bitumen, in view of the constraints of supply and the delay suffered in execution of road construction works in the State; and

(b) if so, the precise demand made bv the State Government and the Central Government's response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) The Government of Gujarat has not requested for any increase in the allocation of bitumen. The State Government had only requested for ensuring adequate supplies against the allocation in view- of certain constraints felt in the supplies in the earlier part of 1996-97.

Based on the State's requirement of bitumen as reported by the Oil Companies, the Government has allocated 284 TMT of bitumen (bulk: 271 TMT and pacjted: 13 TMT) during 1996-97.

Expenditure en oil imports during the Eighth Five Year Plan

2755. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have spent Rs. 93000 crores on oil imports during the Eighth Five Year Plan period; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take to check this alarming increae in oil imports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) During VIII Five Year Plan, an amount of Rs. 93,492 crores approximately has been spent on oil imports.

(b) To contain oil import bill, steps are being taken to increae refinery capacity by expansion of existing refineries in public sector and setting up of refineries in the joint sector and private sector. Steps are also being taken to increase crude oil production in the country through application of improved technologies, development of new fields, additional development of existing fields and by inviting foreign and private capital in the upstream sector.

Consumption of Natural Gas

2756. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR:
SHRI S.M. KRISHNA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total consumption of natural gas in the country;

(b) the percentage of the natural gas used as feedstock in power sector, fertilizers and other core sectors; and

(c) the percentage of natural gas used in the non-priority sectors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R

BAALU): (a) to (c) Currently, around 58.8 MMSCMD of gas is consumed in the various sectors as shown below:

Sector	MMSCMD
Internal Use/ LPG/C2/C3	10.2
Fertilizers	20.9
Power	18.9
Sponge Iron	3.2
Others	5.6

रसोई गैस के कनेक्शनों के लिए राज्य सभा के सदस्यों का कोटा समाप्त किया जाना

2757.**श्री शिव चरण सिंह**:

श्री मुकेश आर.पटेल:

क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार को रसोई गैस के कनेक्शनों के लिए राज्य सभा के सदस्यों का विशेष कोटा बन्द करने हेतु कोई सुझाव प्राप्त हुए हैं;

(ख) यदि हां,तो इस संबंध में ब्यौरा क्या हैं;

(ग) यदि नहीं,तो क्या अप्रैल,1997 से प्रारम्भ होने वाली तिमाही का कोटा जारी किया जा रहा हैं; और

(घ) क्या यह निर्णय दोनों सदनों के सदस्यों के संबंध में लागू होगा ?

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री टी.आर.बालू): (क) जी,हां।

(ख) श्री वी.किशोर चन्द्र एस.देव.संसद सदस्य से संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय के माध्यम से एक पत्र प्राप्त हुआ है,जो प्रधान मंत्री जी को सम्बोधित है। इसमें यह सलाह दी गई है कि केन्द्रीय विद्यालय में स्थानों,टेलीफोन और गैस कनेक्शन के संबंध में संसद सदस्यों को प्रदान किया जाने वाला विवेकाधीन कोटा समाप्त कर दिया जाना चाहिए।

(ग) और (घ) अप्रैल,1997 से आरम्भ होने वाली तिमाही के लिए संसद सदस्यों द्वारा एल पी जी कनेक्शन जारी करने की जांच लोक सभा के माननीय अध्यक्ष द्वारा 26.2.1997को की गई इस आशय की घोषणा के परिप्रेक्ष्य में की जा रही है कि संसद सदस्यों द्वारा टेलीफोन और एल पी जी कनेक्शन जारी करना 1.4.97 से रोक देना चाहिए।

Gas Reserves Near Jaisalmer

2758. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Seismic Survey Maps of ONGC and OIL indicate persence of vast gas reserves in Rajasthan, near Jaisalmer; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to exploit these reserves; if so, the details thereof and by when it is proposed to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) The presence of hydrocarbons cannot be directly inferred from seismic survey maps. However, based on geoscientific surveys and exploratory drilling, five gas bearing structures viz. Manhera Tibba, Ghotaru, Khartar, Bakhri Tibba and Bankia have been discovered and a result thereof, as on 1.4.96, initial inplace reserves of 2.38 BCM of gas have been established by ONGC in the Jaisalmer basin of Rajasthan.

OIL has also carried out exploration activities in Rajasthan and discovered gas at 6 places viz. Tanot, Dandewala, Baggi Tibba, Jalalwala, Ramgarh and Gamnewala. As on 1.4.96 OIL has established inplace reserves of 8.789 BCM of gas in Jaisalmer basin in Rajasthan.

(b) Both ONGC and OIL are producing gas in Rajasthan. The current production is around 0.33 MMSCMD.

LPG Agency and Petrol pump at Bhikiyasain in Almora District

2759. SHRI RAJ NATH SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is no LPG agency and petrol pump at Tehsil headquarter of Bhikiyasain in Almora district of Uttar Pradesh; if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether Kumaon Mandal Vikas Nigam has assessed or propose to assess the requirement of Bhikiyasain tehsil head-quarter and its adjoining villages such as Basot, Bhatraunjkhan, Masi, Sadar, Machhour, etc. in order to open LPG agency and petrol pump there; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor and by when the said assessment is likely to be made?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) Retail Outlet dealerships and LPG distributorships are opened at places meeting Industry's viability norms. However, in remote low potential areas of Kumon, LPG extension points have been allowed through Kumaon Mandal Vikas Nigam. IOC has opened extension counters at Bhikiyasain, Basot and Bhatraunjkhan through M/s Ranikhct Gas Agency.

Government is not aware whether Kumaon Mandal Vikas Nigam has assessed or proposes to assess the requirement of LPG agency and petrol pumps at these locations. However, the Nigam has submitted a proposal to open LPG extension counters at Masi, Sadar and Machhour. Based on Oil Industry's feasibility surveys, Bhikiyasain is proposed to be included in the RO Marketing Plan 1996-98.

Use of LPG as Auto Fuel

2760. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to use LPG as auto fuel;

(b) if so, when the schemes is likely to be implemented; and

(c) what would be the per km. cost of running different vehicles of LPG?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The various recommendations are under study at present. The recommendations have to be examined in consultation with concerned Ministries and organisations.

Black Marketing of LPG Cylinders

2761. SHRIMATI MALTI SHARMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that LPG cylinders are being openly blackmarketed by Krishna Enterprises of Hindustan Petroleum; Upper Bazar Modinagar, district Ghaziabad.

(b) whether it is a fact that home delivery of cylinders is not made by the dealer and consumers have to collect cyliners from the agency themselves;

(c) if so, whether Government would enquire into the matter; and

(d) the action proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd. is not having any LPG distributorship in the name and style of M/s Krishna Enterprises at Upper Bazar, Modinagar Distt. Ghaziabad.

(b) to (d) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

Comprehensive Review of Oil Policy

2762. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a comprehensive review of the entire policy framework on pctroluem in view of the situation arising out of Rs, 15,500 crores and above oil pool deficit; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) :(a) and (b) Government had constituted a 'Strategic Planning Group' on restructuring of the National Oil Industry with members comprising of top management from public and private sector and leading experts from academic and research Institutes. The group has submitted its report. The report ef the Group is being examined by the Government.

पेट्रोलियम और गैस के मूल्यों में वृद्वि

2763.**श्री रामजीलाल**: क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या प्रधान मंत्री ने यह घोषणा की है कि पेट्रोलियम और गैस की दरों में कोई वृद्वि नहीं की जायेंगी :

(ख) क्या सरकार इस बात को सुनिश्चित करने का विचार रखती है कि इन उत्पादों के मूल्यों में कम से कम एक वर्ष तक कोई वृद्वि न हो:

(ग) यदि नहीं,तो उसके क्या कारणहैं :और

(घ) क्या सरकार पेट्रोलियम उत्पादों पर प्रति लीटर और गैस पर प्रति सिलिंडर कोई राजसहायता प्रदान कर रही है और यदि हां,तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या हैं ?

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री टी.आर.बालू): (क) से (घ) पेट्रोलियम उत्पादों के मूल्य सरकार द्वारा तेल पूल लेखे की व्यवस्था के माध्यम से प्रकाशित किए जाते हैं । 31.3.1997 की स्थिति के अनुसार पूल लेखे से तेल कंपनियों की संचयी बकाया राशि 15,500 करोड़ रूपए होने का अनुमान है । तेल पूल लेखे की स्थिति की सतत आधार पर निगरानी की जाती है और सरकार तेल पूल लेखे में घाटे को नियंत्रित करने के लिए विभिन्न विकल्पों का पता लगा रही है । 1996-97 के दौरान पेट्रोलियम उत्पादों पर अनुमानित राजसहायता निम्नानुसार हैं ;

उत्पाद	करोड़ रूपए
एच एस डी 1.97 रू./लीटर	8340
एस के ओ 5.18 रू./लीटर (घरेलू)	6350
एल.पी जी पैकड 70.22 रू./सिलेंडर (घरेलू)	1950
नाफ्था (उर्वरक)	980
एफ ओ (उर्वरक)	390
एल एस एच एस (उर्वरक)	200
बिदुमेन (पैंकड)	190
पैराफीन मौक	40
योग	18440

Issue of Bonds by SPGL

2764. SHRI V, HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the PRIMS MINISTER be pleased to state!

(a) whether Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited Is going for fund raising to the-extent of Rs. 640 crores through bonds or debentures}

(b) if so, what are the terms of sueh a fund raising exercise;

(c) whether BPCL needs this funding; and

(d) if so, what scrutiny has been done of BPCL's activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited is raising funds to the extent of Rs. 200 crores with an option to retain additional Rs. 50 crores

if the issue is oversubscribed, through private placement of bonds.

(b) The bonds are in the nature of secured redeemable non-convertible debentures with 15.5% interest payable semiannually. The maturity period of bonds is 3 years from the date of allotment.

(c) and (d) The Government scrutinises the activities of Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited through various means such as Quarterly Performance Review and through Government Directors on the Board of the Company etc. The capital expenditure on various on going projects during the year 1996-97 is estimated to be Rs. 600 crores approximately. The funds raised through issue of bonds will be utilised for financing the projects.

Pipeline Project of HPCL Across Godavarl River

2765. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Hindustant Petroleum Corporation Limited is building a pipeline across Godavari river in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the cost of this project;

(c) the likely financial benefits from this project;

(d) whether its cost is likely to be more in comparison to its financial returns; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken to review this project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (e) Government has approved the laying of a 356 Km. long product pipeline from Vizag to Vijayawada by HPCL, at an estimated cost of Rs. 521.61 crores, with a completion schedule of 36 months from the date of Government approval. The pipeline will cross the Godavari river.

The project has an internal rate of return of 15.7% based on the prevailing pricing formula. Transportation of petroleum products by pipeline is economical as compared to transportation by road/rail.

The progress of implementation of the project is monitored regularly.

Expenditure on Oil Exploration

2766. SHRI PARAG CHALIHA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the specific steps taken to increase the oil and gas exploration in the country during 1996;

(b) the total expenditure incurred during the above period for this purpose, State-wise; and

(c) the details of achievements made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) the specific steps taken to increase oil & gas exploration in the country in 1996 are:—

—Intensified exploration in already proven areas like Cambay, Krishna-Godavari, Cauvery, Assam-Arakan, Assam Shelf, West & East Coast offshore.

—Extending efforts into frontier areas like South Rewa, Gondwana, North & North-East fold belt and other areas like Brahmaputra Valley besides deep water of East and West Coast offshore.

—Exploration acreages within the country have been offered by the Government of India under the components like:

(i) Exploration bidding
(ii) Joint Venture exploration bidding
(iii) Speculative seilsmic surveys.

(b) and (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Use of Compressed Natural Gas in Government Vehicles

2767. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether use of compressed natural gas in Government vehicles is proving expensive;

(b) whether maintenance and safety of vehicles TUB by compressed natural gas is difficult; and

(c) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) No, Sir. Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) is supplied @ 8.12 per petrol litre equivalent as against Rs. 21.13/Litre of petrol. Though the maintenance of CNG driven vehicle is not difficult, Government have no separate feedback as to the expenditure incurred on maintenance of such vehicles.

LPG Bottling Plants in the Country

2768. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of LPG bottling plants of various companies functioning in different parts of the country, till-date State-wise;

(b) the capacity of each of the plant;

(c) whether Government propose to establish more LPG bottling plants in different States of country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, company-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) There are 87 LPG bottling plants operating in the country with a capacity of 3235 TMTPA.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) A statement is annexed below.

Statement

New Bottling Plants to be set up as per the VIII Plan Proposals

State	No. of Bottling Plants	Capacity in TMTPA
Andhra Pradesh	2	70
Arunachal Pradesh	1	5
Assam	2	44
Bihar	2	32
Goa	2	22
Gujarat	4	178
Jammu & Kashmir	2	25
Karnataka	1	22
Kerala	1	22
Madhya Pradesh	3	42
Maharashtra	3	84
Meghalaya	1	5
Mizoram	1	5
Manipur	1	10
Nagaland	1	5
Punjab	1	34
Rajasthan	1	22
Tripura	1	5
Tamil Nadu	9	186
Uttar Pradesh	6	82
West Bengal	4	86
Andaman & Nicobar	1	5

Outbreak of Fire in Mandapeta Oilfield in Kakinada

2769. SHRI AKHILESH DAS: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a major fire broke out in the Mandapeta oilfield of ONGC in Kakinada, while drilling was going on there;

(b) what measures were taken to control this fire and whether indigenous technology was used;

(c) what was the extent of damage caused by the fire and how many such incidents took place during the last three years, with locations of oilwells; and

(d) what security arrangements are made before starting drilling?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Immediately after the fire broke out men and material of the Regional Crisis Management Team (RCMT) of ONGC were mobilised on the site to combat the fire. Simultaneously, the services of three experts from M/s. Wild Well Control Inc., USA were obtained to assist ONGC team in the well control and capping operations.

ONGC's Crisis Mangement Team possesses both indegenous and imported equipment for blow out control.

(c) The rig and equipment belonging to M/S Hitech Drilling Co., have been damaged. The losses incurred by ONGC as a result of the blow out are provisionally estimated to be around Rs. 7.02 crores.

In the last 3 years, there were 3 incidents of fire in the wells of ONGC, viz, Pasarlapudi and Mandapeta in Andhra Pradesh and Well No. BRDE in Assam. One well of Oil India Ltd., also caught fire in Kathaloni, Assam during this period.

(d) Before vvfiimcncing dHINv-v operations, the drill site is fenced vvnii barbed wires and security personnel are deployed to guard the site round the clock, and to check the movement of vehicles, men and materials.

Oil Exploration Work in the Country

2770. SHRI AKHILESH DAS: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the places where oil exploration work is goin'g on in the country at present;

(b) the sediment cover area, with estimated gas/oil reserves in the country; and

(c) what percentage of this has been exploited so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Exploration of oil and gas is being conducted in Cambay, Rajasthan, Krishna-Godavari, Cauvery, Bengal, Assam-Arakan Fold Belt, Upper Assam, Himalayan Foreland, Ganga Valley and Vindhyan/Satpure basins in the onland and in the Eastern and Western offshore areas.

(b) The total sedimentary area of the country is 1.785 Sq.K.Ms. upto 200 mts. isobath. The initial inplace reserves as on 1.4.96 amount to 6839.21 MMT of Oil and Oil equivalent of gas of which recoverable reserves amount to 2268.64 MMT.

(c) A total of 801.07 MMT of reserves of oil and gas have been exploited till 31.3.1996. This accounts for 35.3% of the total recoverable reserves.

LPG on Demand by 2000 AD

2771. SHRI YERRA NARAYANA-SWAMY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item which appeared in the Hindustan Times dated lie 1st March 1997 captioned "LPG on demand by 2000 in Delhi, IOC";

(b) whether this plan would be extended all over the country by 2000 AD;

(c) if not, the constraints in this regard;

(d) whether Government have any plans to increase the capacity of existing IOC plants; and

(e) the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (e) Release of new connections for clearing of waiting list depends inter-alia upon product availability, slack available with the existing distributors, minimum/ sustainable allocation to newly

commissioned distributors/unviable distributors, etc., It is, therefore, not possible to indicate a definite time frame for release of connections to the waitlisted persons. However, with the expected higher availability of LPG through imports, more connections are planned to be released and it is expected to clear the entire waiting list by the year 2000-1, throughout the country.

The Oil Companies have taken steps to augment LPG production from indigenous sources and maximise LPG imports through existing facilities at Mumbai, Vizag, Kandla and Mangalore. Action has also been taken to augment LPG bottling capacity, LPG movement capacity procurement of LPG equipment etc., and expanding retail network for meeting the demand of existing and the new customers.

IOC's LPG Bottling plants in A.P.

2772. SHRI YERRA NARAYANA-SWAMY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indian Oil Corporation's LPG bottling plants functioning in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether Indian Oil Corporation plan to open more such plants in the State; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to meet LPG demand in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) One LPG bottling plant of IOC at Vijaywada with a capacity of 22 TMTPA is currently operating in the State of Andhra Pradesh.

(b) Indian Oil Corporation proposes to set up two new bottling plants under the VIII Plan in the following locations in Andhra Pradesh:

Location	*Capacity (TMTPA)*
Cuddapah	44
Secunderabad/Hyderabad (Cherlapally)	26

(c) Efforts are constantly on to release LPG connections to applicants as early as possible. Plants have been drawn for higher availability of LPG by increasing the capacity of existing production sources, putting up new plants and higher imports through existing and new facilities.

Price Increase of Natural Gas

2773. SHRI N. GIRI PRASAD:
DR. MOHAN BABU:
DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what has been the price of natural gas in the country, year-wise from 1990, till date, and whether the figures compare with those in Italy, Germany, France, Thailand, Korea and Japan; and

(b) the annual rate of increase in the prices of natural gas since 1990 and whether the figures compare with the price increase of LPG, HSD, Petrol, during the same period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) the consumer price of gas, yearwise since 1990 is shown in the Table below:

	Rs./MMC
1990	1400
1991	1400
1992	1550
1993	1650
1994	1750
1995	1850
1996	1850
1997	1850

The price of gas in the North-Eastern Stats has been Rs. 1000/MCM since 1990.

The current border price of gas in Europe is around Rs. 3900/MCM. The price of gas in Japan is higher.

(b) The rate of increase in the natural gas price over 1990—97 works out to around 4.6% per annum which is lower than the increase in the price of LPG, HSD & Petrol.

Committees for Prices of Natural Cos

2774. SHRI N. GIRI PRASAD:
SHRI S.M. KRISHNA:
SHRI SOLIPETA
RAMACHANDRA REDDY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the committees appointed during the last ten years on natural gas or fuel related pricing issues;

(b) the details of recommendations made by each of these committees and those accepted by Government; and

(e) what action has been taken to implement those recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PgTROLEUM AND NATURAL OAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) A committee was constituted in 1990 and another in 1995 to recommend charges in natural gas prices.

(b) and (c) The Kelkar Committee constituted in 1990 recommended a fixed pr6ducer price based on the long run average cost of production from the South Bassein field and a gradually increase in consumer price approaching the international price of high sulphur fuel oil. These recommendations were broadly accepted by the Government while fixing the natural gas price w.e.f. 1.1.1992. The Sankar Committee Constituted in 1995 has recommended a gradual increase in the consumer price of gas to approach the import parity price.

These recommendations are under examination in the Government.

The Government had constituted Oil Prices Review Committee (OPRC) in 1989. It was felt that the report of the Committee prepared in a different context may not be fully relevant and therefore was not processed. A Strategic Planning Group on restructuring of Oil Industry ('R' Group) was constituted in 1994. The report of the Group is being examined by the Government.

दरभंगा में पेट्रोल पम्प के विरूद्व शिकायत

2775. **श्री रामगोपाल यादव**: क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार को दिसम्बर,1996 में दरभंगा (बिहार) के बेनीपुर में "सुन्दर सर्विस सेन्टर" नाम के पेट्रोल पम्म के विरूद्व शिकातय प्राप्त हुई थीं;

(ख) यदि हां,तो उक्त पेट्रोल पम्प के विरूद्व की गई कार्यवाही का ब्यौरा क्या है ;

(ग) यदि कोई कार्यवाही नहीं की गई है तो इसके क्या कारण है;

(घ) क्या जांच अधिकारी ने शिकायतकर्ता से संपर्क किया है,यदि नहीं,तो इसके या कारण है; और

(ड) क्या उक्त विक्रेता द्वारा दी जा रही रसीदों पर लाइसेंस नम्बर नहीं छपा हुआ है,यदि हां,तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ?

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री टी.आर.बालू): (क) जी,हां। मैं सुन्दर सर्विस स्टेशन,बेनीपुर,दरभंगा(बिहार)के विरूद्व एक शिकायत श्रीमती सुभावती देवी सांसद,लोक सभा के माध्यम से श्री राम लखन यादव से दिसम्बर,1996 में प्राप्त हुई हैं।

(ख)जांच के दौरान यह पाया गया है कि डीलर ने निर्धारित दर की तुलना में एक पैसा अतिरिक्त लिया था ।खुदरा बिक्री केन्द्र पर बिक्री और आपूर्ति विपणन अनुशासन दिशा-निर्देश के अंतर्गत 14.2.1997 से15 दिनों के लिए निलंबित कर दी गई।

(ग) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

(घ) क्षेत्र अधिकारी शिकायतकर्ता से संपर्क करने के लिए 18.1.1997 और 14.2.1997 को बेनीपुर गए । दोनों ही दिन उनसे संपर्क नहीं किया जा सका क्योंकि वे उस जगह से बाहर गए हुए थे । तथापि,शिकायकर्ता क पिता से संकर्क किया गया,जिन्हें घटना के संबंध में जानकारी नहीं थीं ।

(ड़) डीलन की लाइसेंस संख्या नकदी की रसीद पर इसलिए मुद्रित नहीं थी,क्योंकि ऐसा करना अनिवार्य नहीं था ।

तेल क्षेत्र का पुनर्गइन किया जाना

2776.**श्री दलीप सिंह जूदेव**: क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार ने हाइड्रोकार्बन क्षेत्र में और अधिक सुधार लाने संबंधी अपने निर्णय को स्थगित कर दिया है ;

(ख) यदि हां,तो क्या पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय ने पुनर्गठन दल की रिपोर्ट के आधार पर पेट्रोलियम क्षेत्र के पुनर्गठन की योजना तैयार की है;

(ग) यदि हां,तो इस संबंध में कब तक अंतिम निर्णय लिए जाने की संभावना हैं; और

(घ) तेल क्षेत्र में सुधार प्रक्रिया को रोक देने के क्या कारण हैं ?

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री(श्री टी.आर.बालू): (क) से (घ) राष्ट्रीय तेल उद्योग की पुनसरंचना के लिए गठित किए गए "कार्यनीतिक योजना दल" की रिपोर्ट की सरकार द्वारा जांच की जा रही है ।

Regional Offices of ONGC

2777. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of regional offices of ONGC and their locations;

(b) whether there is any proposal to open a regional office of ONGC at Rajamundry; and

(c) if so, by when it would start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T. R. BAALU): (a) There are five Regional Offices of ONGC Ltd., located at Mumbai, Calcutta, Nazira, Chennai and Baroda.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise in view of (b) above.

आयातित पेट्रोलियम उत्पादों के परिवहन पर आया खर्च

2778.**श्री राघवजी**: क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) आयातित क्रूड आयल,पेट्रोल और डीजल को भारत के बदंरगाहों में गोदामों/टैंकों तक ले जाने में प्रति-लीटर कितना खर्च हुआ ;

(ख) क्या आयातित तेल और देश में उत्पादित उपरोक्त उत्पादों की लागत में कोई अंतर है;और

(ग) यदि हां,तो इसका क्या कारण हैं ?

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री(श्री टी.आर.बालू): (क) से (ग) कच्चे तेल और पेट्रोलियम उत्पादों की परिवहन लागत में,ले जाएगए उत्पादन की प्रकृति,मात्रा एवं तय की गई दूरी,परिवहन के तरीके इत्यादि पर निर्भर करते हुए भिन्न्ता आएगी । पेट्रोलियम उत्पादों के मूल्य निर्धारण की विद्यमान पद्वति तेल लागत पुनरीक्षा समिति (ओ सी आर सी),1984 द्वारा तथा संशोधित तेल मूल्य समिति (1976) की सिफारिशों पर आधारित है । पेट्रोलियम उत्पादों की उत्पादन लागत में क्रूड थ्रुपूट के सार,उत्पादन पद्वति,कच्चे तेल की सुपुर्दगी लागत,संसाधन/शोधन लागत तथा नियोजित पूंजी से हुए लाभ पर निर्भर करते हुए रिफाइनरी दर रिफाइनरी भिन्नता आएगी । पेट्रोलियम उत्पादों के अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय मूल्य प्राथमिक रूप से विश्व-व्यापि आपूर्ति-मांग स्थिति,अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय क्रूड मूल्यों तथा अन्य भू-राजनीतिक पहुलओं पर निर्धारित किए जाते हैं ।

गुजरात को पेट्रालियम और प्राकृतिक गैस पर ही जाने वाली रायल्टी का भुगतान

2779.**श्री चीमनभाई हरीभाई शुक्ला**:
श्री दिलीप सिंह जूदेव:

क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) प्राकृतिक गैस और पेट्रोलियम उत्पादित राज्यों के लिए रायल्टी दरें क्या हैं ;

(ख) क्या राज्यों के लिए दी जाने वाली रायल्टी दरों में कोई असमानता है;

(ग) विगत पांच वर्षो से किन-किन राज्यों को रायल्टी का भुगतान नहीं किया गया हैं;

(घ) गुजरात सरकार से इस संबंध में अब तक कितने अभ्यावेदन प्राप्त हुए है और राज्य को कुल कितनी रायल्टी का भुगतान नहीं किया गया ;

(ङ) क्या गुजरात को अन्य राज्यों की तुलना में कम दरों पर रायल्टी का भुगतान करने का निर्णय लिया गया है ;और

(च) क्या राज्य के मुख्यमंत्री ने रायल्टी की दर बढ़ाने और तत्काल रूप से बकाया राशि का भुगतान करने का अनुरोध करते हुए प्रधान मंत्री को पत्र लिखा हैं ?

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री(श्री टी.आर.बालू): (क) प्राकृतिक गैस पर रायल्टी कप शीर्ष पर प्राकृतिक गैस के विक्रय मूल्य के 10%की दर पर देय हैं। जहां तक कच्चे तेल का संबध है,रायल्टी की अतिंम दर अधिसूचना के समायोजन और उचित समय में क्रूड मूल्य को अंतिम रूप दिए जाने के अधीन,1.4.1996 से 578 रूपए प्रति मीट्रिक टन की दर पर रायल्टी की"लेखागत" दर का भुगतान किया जा रहा है।

(ख) से (ड़) कच्चे तेल और प्राकृतिक गैस पर रायल्टी की दरें सभी राज्यों पर समान रूप से लागू हैं। कच्चे तेल और प्राकृतिक गैस के उत्पादक,संबंधित राज्य सरकारों को प्रत्यक राज्य से लिए गए उत्पादन के संबंध में रायल्टी का भुगतान कर रहे हैं।

(च)गुजरात के मुख्य मंत्री ने प्रधानमंत्री को 18.2.1997 के अपने पत्र में अन्य बातों के साथ-साथ 1993-94 से 1995-96 की ब्लाक अवधि के लिए कच्चे तेल पर रायल्टी की अतिंम दर के नियतन,इस बारे में राज्य सरकार की बकाया धनराशि प्राप्त करने की इकदारी और राबल्टी की गणना करने की पद्वति में परिवर्तन के संबंध में लिखा है।

Autonomy to ONGC and OB Board to take Investment Decision

2780. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to grant substantial autonomy to ONGC and Oil Boards to take investment decisions, particularly on capital expenditure on projects, as well as investment in joint ventures, taking out these companies out of PIB purview, to speed up clearance.

(b) if so, the details of fresh initiatives taken in this regard, with their intended implications;

(c) the details of major projects recently cleared/under consideration/ implementation; and

(d) the details of the steps taken/ proposed to be taken to enure that projects, once approved, do not get delayed in execution and end up with huge cost and time escalation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUHf AND NATURAL OAS (SHRI T. R. BAALU): (a) and (b) No decision has been taken by the Government to give complete autonomy to ONGC/OIL to make investment decisions or taken them out of PIB purview.

(c) The major projects under implementation are—

(A) Projects under inipleinennuiuii:—

(i) Development of B-121/119 Structure
(ii) Commercialisation of In-situ Combustion at Balol (Main)
(iii) Application of In-situ Combustion at Santhal Phase-II
(iv) Development of B-173A Structure
(v) Development of B-55 Structuxe

(vi) Development of Heera Phase-Ill

(8) Projects awaiting Govt. approval:—

(i) Additional development of Bombay High North II (ii) Setting up of grassroot para-xylene project at Hazlra (iil) Installation of Booster Compressors in the Bassein field (iv) Setting up of additional cogeneration facilities at Uran

(d) The steps being taken for timely completion of projects are:

— Close monitoring of projects at project, regional and Board level.

— Parallel planning of various project activities.

— Close internation with contractors/ vendors for resolution of Issues.

— Use of latest software In project management,

Supply of Gu for Power Generation

2781. SHRI K.M. KHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether some requests for supply of gas for power generation at different places In the country are under consideration of Government;

(b) If so, the details thereof, Statewlse and Union Territory-wise;

(c) whether some of the requests relate to Andhra Pradesh;

(d) if so, the details thereof, district-wise, and tentative time schedule for approval of such requests; and

(e) if not,the steps to be taken by Government to these lines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN,THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM' AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T. R. BAALU): (a) and (b) Requests for allocation of gas for power generation has "been received from a number of States such as Maharashtra, Gujarat, Rajasthan, U.P., Delhi, Haryana, Andhra Pradesh etc.

(c) The Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested for an increase in the allocation of the two power projects of M/s GVK and Spectrum and alio for additional allocations to APSEB.

(d) and (e) The gas projected to be available is fully allocated and it is not feasible to allocate any more gas at present.

LPG Connections on Demand

2782. SHRI K. M. KHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether some requests for provision of LPO connections to consumers on demand were received by Government from different parti of the country during the last three years;

(b) If so, the details thereof, State and Union Territory-wise and year-wise separately;

(c) whether LPO connections on demand are also available to consumers of Andhra Pradesh; and

(d) If so, the details thereof and tf not, the reasons therefor, alongwlth the steps to be taken In this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T. R. BAALU): (a) to (d) Demands for release of LPG connections immediately from a targe number of persons all over the country are received. As per the Tatkal Scheme (on demand) which has come into effect from 20.2.97, any person can have an LPG connection by paying a non-refundable amount of Rs. 4000/- in addition to regular security deposit towards cylinders and regulator, subject to the condition that he does not already possess an LPG connection. The connection will be installed at customer's premises within seven days from the date

of receipt of application including Andhra Pradesh.

Under Tatkal Scheme, 158619 LPG connections have been released all over the country upto Jan., 1997.

Grievances of Petroleum Dealers of Tamil Nadu

2783. SHRI R. MARGABANDU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Minsitry of Petroleum and Natural Gas has received any demand from Tamil Nadu Petroleum Dealers' Association conveying the grievances of the delaers; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to meet their grievances?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T. R. BAALU): (a) and (b) Various representations including one from Tamil Nadu Petroleum Dealers Association have been received for revising the rates of commission, etc. Accordingly, a Committee has been constituted to examine the demands raised by the Dealers/Distributors for revision in the commission, etc.

Cost Price Based Commission on Petrol and Diesel

2784. SHRI R. MARGABANDU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to pay commission on petrol and diesel on the basis of cost price, instead of the slab rate; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T. R. BAALU): (a) and (b) Various representations have been received for revising the rates of commission. Accordingly, a Committee has been constituted to examine the demands raised by the Dealers/Distributors for revision in the commission.

LPG Import Terminals

2785. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA: SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJI RAO SHINDE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether two LPG import terminals have been commissioned at Kandla and Mangalore; if so, the extent of LPG supplies expected through these terminals, and other related features thereof; and

(b) whether any additional import terminals are proposed to be commissioned at Pondicherry, Haldia, Paradip and Pipavav; if so, the details of the related projects and the steps being taken in that direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T. R. BAALU): (a) Yes, Sir. New LPG Import Terminals of 600 TMTPA capacity each, have been commissioned by IOC and HPCL at Kandla and Mangalore respectively. The related features of these terminals are as under:

KANDLA

1. Import of commercial Butane and Propane.
2. Tanker unloading facilities.
3. Referigeration and atmospheric pressure system.
4. Blending arrangements.
5. Evacuation of warm/pressurised blended product.
6. Fire fighting system etc.

MANGALORE

1. Pressurised storage system.
2. Bays Tank trucks loading gantry.
3. Fire fighting system, etc.

(b) Yes Sir. Following locations have been identified for putting up import terminals.

Location	Capacity (TMT)
1. Paradeep	600
2. Pipavav (JV)	300
3. Dahej (JV)	300
4. Okha (JV)	400
5. Madras/Ennore	300
6. Kakinada (two)	700 (300+400)
7. Pondicherry	100
8. Haldia (JV)	400

The terminals at Sr. No. 1 to 5 are at various stages of implementation. Terminals at Sr. No. 6-8 arc likely to be implemented under IX Plan.

आठवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना के दौरान क्रूड आयल का उत्पादन

2786.**श्री जेठमलानी**: क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्य यह सच है कि आठवीं पंचवषीर्य योजना के दौरान देश में कतिपय नई परियोजनाओं से क्रूड आयल उत्पादन का कार्य प्रारंभ हुआ था;

(ख) यदि हां,तो वे परियोनाएं कौन-कौन सी हैं तथा प्रत्येक कितनी-कितनी मात्रा में वार्षिक उत्पादन होने की संभावना हैं;और

(ग) इन अतिरिक्त उत्पादन स्त्रोतों के कारण आठवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना के अंत में उक्त योजना के प्रारंभ की तुलना में कितना अधिक क्रूड आयल देश में उत्पादित होने का अनुमान हैं ?

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री(श्री टी.आर.बालू) (क) जी हां।

(ख)आठवीं योजना के दौरान कार्यान्वित कच्चे तेल की प्रमुख परियोजनाओं और 1995-97 के दौरान उत्पादन में उनके प्रत्याशित अंशदान का ब्यौरा निम्नानुसार हैं:-

प्रमुख परियोजनाएं	1996-97 के दौरान अनुमानित उत्पादन(एम एम टी)
नीलम	2.30
एल-II	1.35
एल-III	1.91
दक्षिणी हीरा	1.41
एस-I बालू	0.11
गांधार क्षेत्र विकास	2.45
कुल	9.53

X(इनमें बाद में संयुक्त उद्यम कंपनियों को सौंपी गई परियोजनाएं शामिल नहीं है)

(ग) उपर्युक्त परियोजनाओं ने वर्ष 1992-93 की तुलना में 1996-97 के दौरान लगभग 7.997 एक एम टी तेल की अतिरिक्त मात्रा का अंशदान किया है ।

Opposition to modified Tatkal Scheme for LPG connections

2787. SHRI VIRENDRA KATARIA:
SHRI O.P. KOHLI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the modified Tatkal Scheme for LPG connections would deprive of cooking as facility to those who have been waiting for it for years together and are unable to pay Rs. 4000/-

(b) whether some consumer movements and common people are opposing the scheme;

(c) whether, besides implementing this scheme, Government would keep alive the waiting list for LPG and give equal priority to all kinds of consumers, i.e. those who pay Rs. 4,000/- and those whose names are on the waiting list; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Modified Tatkal Scheme for LPG connection will not affect the persons on the waiting list as it provides LPG connection to a person who is in urgent need of LPG connection. As per the enrolment plan, LPG connection will be made available to the persons on the waiting list with the distributors, as usual.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir. As stated in (a) above, LPG connections will also be made available to the persons on the waiting list, as before.

(d) Not applicable in view of above.

Production of natural gas from Bombay High

2788. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of natural gas produced from Bombay High during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the amount of annual royalty the Government of Maharashtra recommended during the above period; and

(c) whether it is a fact that a major portion of gas from the Bombay High is wasted in flamming up; if so, the details thereof and the steps taken to control the wastage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (c) The details of natural gas produced and flared in Bombay High during the last three years is given below;—

Production and Flaring of Natural Gas in Bombay High

(MMSCMD)

Years	Produced	Flared	% of flaring
1993-94	12.43	1.12	9.0
1994-95	13.35	1.23	9.2
1995-96	15.46	1.11	7.2

The flaring of gas in Bombay High is mainly due to technical requirements of field operations, fluctuations in consumer demand and has been reduced to the minimum under the present scenario. It has been reduced overtime through implementation of gas flaring reduction project, creation of adequate infrastructure for compression, dehydration and transportation of gas from off-shore platforms to the shore terminals.

(b) No royalty was paid to Government of Maharashtra since in respect of oil and gas production from off-shore area, the royalty is payable to the Central Government.

Supply oi gas to Ramgarh Power Plant at reasonable rates

2789. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had fixed a special price of Rupees 350 per kilo cubmic metre in February, 1988, for supply of gas to three MW Ramgarh plant, which was availed upto March, 1989;

(b) whether Government are aware that this gas price has resulted in exhorbitant cost of power generation as Ramgarh G.T.P.P. contains about 62% nitrogen, apart from gas transportation charges borne by R.S.E.B.; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to revise/fix the gas price at a reasonable level for power generation at Ramgarh G.T.P.P.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) RSEB, Ramgarh is entitled to a reduction in the gas price on account of its composition and has also been allowed a discount of 15% for utilising gas from a developing field.

Poverty alleviation schemes in the Ninth Five Year Plan

2790. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of poverty alleviation schemes/programmes envisaged in the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(b) what is the State-wise break-up of funds allocated for the purpose; and

(c) the names of the areas in Madhya Pradesh proposed to be covered under the above Scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) to (c) The Ninth Five Year Plan is in the process of formulation. The on-going poverty alleviation programmes for self-employment and wage-employment being implemented in the rural and urban areas of the country including the State of Madhya Pradesh would continue in the Ninth Five Year Plan. They would, however, be rationalised and re-designed in order to make them more effective instruments of poverty alleviation. In addition, priority will be given to the identified seven Basic Minimum Services (BMS) with Additional Central Assistance (ACA) earmarked for these services to achieve the objective of their universal coverage in a time bound manner. The allocation of funds to the StatesAJTs under different poverty alleviation schemes/programmes in the Ninth Plan will be available once the Ninth Plan is finalised.

Assessment of poverty

2791. SHRI ISH DUTT YADAV:
SHRI NAGMANI:

Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several studies have been conducted to assess the magnitude of poverty during the course of economic reforms and also about the impact thereof but no fiaal assessment has been made in this regard;

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto;

(c) what efforts have been made for propoer assessment of the poverty line;

(d) whether it is a fact that Government machinery has failed to make assessment of poverty in the light of Eighth Five Year Plan and the impact of economic reforms;

(e) whether optimum benefits could not be derived from the expenditure incurred for this purpose; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) and (b) The studies on poverty are generally made from the National Sample "Survey (NSS) Data on Consumer Expenditure. The Planning Commission uses quinquennial NSS data on Consumer Expenditure to estimate the incidence of poverty. The incidence of poverty for the two latest periods following the recently adopted official methodology, which is bnscd on the

report of the Expert Group on Estimation of Proportion and Number of Poor, are estimated as 38,86 per cent in 1987-88 and 35.97 per cent in 1993-94. -

(c) The poverty line is defined in terms of monthly per capita consumption expenditure of Rs. 49.09 in rural areas and Rs. 56.64 in urban areas at 1973-74 prices corresponding to a basket of goods »nd services anchored on a norm of per capita' daily calorie requirement of 2400 in rural areas and 2100 in urban areas. These rural and urban poverty lines of 1973-74 arc dis-aggregated into state specific poverty lines using the inter-state prices differential of the year, These state specific rural poverty lines are updated by the Consumer Price Index of Agricultural Labourers and urban poverty lines by Consumer Price Index of Industrial Workers.

(d) The Planning Commission estimates the incidence of poverty using the quinquennial National Sample Survey Data on Consumer Expenditure. The Eighth Five Year Plan covers the period 1992—97. Based on the latest available data, the incidence of poverty in 1993-94 is estimated as 35.97 per cent following the recently adopted official methodology which is based on the report of the Expert Group on Estimation of proportion and Number of Poor.

(e) and (0 Statement-I gives the yearly allocation and expenditure under 1RDP, JRM and EAS during Eighth Five Year Plan *(See below).*

The yearwlse targets and achievements of families assisted under 1RDP, man-days of employment provided under JRY and EAS for each year of the Eighth Five Year Plan It given in Statement —II below.

Statoment — I

Financial Performance undtr Major Poverty Alleviation Programmes during Eighty Plan (I.e. 1992-93 to 1996-97)

(Rs. Crore)

SI No,		1992-93		*1993-94*		1994-95		*m-mfiw)*		1996-97(Prov)	
		Total Bnpindl* Allo- Mllsit	lun	Total Allo- Ntlan	Bxpendi. ture	Total Alio cation	Bupmdl- tun	Tetil Alio- mils it	*Uxptntit-* tun	Tottl Allo- wlai	Bnptndt- ture (upio DM, W)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
I	I.R.D.P,	662,22	693.01	1093.43	956.65	1091.22	1001,07	1097.31	1077,16	1097.21	390,01
2.	J.R.Y, 1st Stream llnd Stream	3169.05 ___	2709.59 ____	3181.22 878.2	3590.21 288.5	3498.72 878.2	359.88 908.45	4348.7 500	3966.08 500.82	2236.79	1221.08
3.	EAS	___	___	548.77	183.75	1410.25	1235.45	201.64	1720.61.	1131.32 (Upto Dec. 96)	998

AS: Funds Released; at no Statewise allocations are made under EAS. Total Release (Central + State Matching Share)

Statement-II

Physical Performance under Major Poverty Atleviaticm Programmes during 8th Plan Le. 1992-93 to 1996-97

SI. No.	Programmes	199243 Target	199243 Achieve-ment	1983-94 Target	1983-94 Ackjeve-nent	1994-95 Target	1994-95 Aduevt-ment	1993-96(Prov) Target	1993-96(Prov) Achieve-	l996-97(Prov) Target	l996-97(Prov) Achicwe-neot (upto Dec 96)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	9	10	11	12
1.	I.R.D.P. (lakh families)	18.75	20.69	25.7	25.38	21.15	21.82	___	20.9	—	9.9
2.	J.R.Y. (lakh mandays) 1st Stream Ilnd Stream	7537.95 — —	7821.02 — —	10383.26 — —	9523.45 734.95	7997 .37 1868.08	7453 59 2063.48	8042.8 437 .25	7955.89 1002.36	4288.58	227441
3.	EAS (lakh mandayt)	—	—	—	494.74	—	27390.56	—	3463.27	___	1892.02

Implementation of MPLAD Scheme

2792. SHRI VIRENDRA KATARIA: Will the Miniitcr of PLANNING AND PROORAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleated to state:

(a) whether it it a fact that implementation on MPLAD scheme is tardy and Members of Parliament are facing many difficulties at the district level*,

(b) whether it is also a fact that there is no proper or effective monitoring of the projects launched under this scheme at the District Collector level; and

(c) what is Government's response to the proposal for interaction with Members of Parliament on the subject and forming a Committee of MPs to reassess the whole matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) Some Members of Parliament have complained about slow pace of implementation of the works under MPLADS.

(b) and (c) The State Governments have been requested to issue general instructions with regard to the periodic meetings to be held by the District level officers with the Members of Parliament and to evolve an effective mechanism for monitoring the implementation of the scheme at the State level. Revised guidelines on MPLADS were issued only last month after -discussions in meetings under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Speaker and in consultation with the Chairman, Rajya Sabha. Therefore, it is not considered necessary to have a ressessment.

Pending schemes received from Bihar

2793. SHRI CYAN RANJAN: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMET be pleased TO .SUV

(a) the NUMBER

and

(B).
appi

THEMlNi- .
MINISTRY CE PLANNING AND

PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) and (b) No scheme of Bihar is pending for action in Planning Commission for investment clearance.

पजांब और उत्तर प्रदेश की वार्षिक योजनाओं के लिए आबंटन

2794. **श्री मोहिन्दर सिंह कल्याण**: क्या योजना और कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) पंजाब और उत्तर प्रदेश की सरकारों द्वारा वर्ष 1996-97 के लिए कितनी वार्षिक योजना राशि की मांग की गई और केन्द्रीय सरकार द्वारा वास्तव में कितनी धनराशि आबंटित की गई;और

(ख) इस संबंध में वर्ष 1995-96 और 1996-97 के लिए वित्तीय लक्ष्यों का क्षेत्र-वार ब्यौरा क्या हैं ?

योजना और कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री तथा विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री योगेन्द्र कुमार भगराम अलघ): (क) और (ख) राज्यों के योजना परिव्ययों का निर्धारण योजना आयोग के उपाध्यक्ष तथा संबंधित राज्य के मुख्यमंत्री/राज्यपाल के मध्य हुई बैठकों में संसाधन उपलब्धता को ध्यान में रखते हुए पारस्परिक रूप से किया जाता है । 1996-97 की वार्षिक योजना हेतु पंजाब व उत्तर प्रदेश के लिए क्रमश: 1859.05 करोड़ रूपये तथा 6549.03 करोड़ रू.के योजना परिव्यय को अंतिम रूप दिया गया । वर्ष 1995-96 तथा 1996-97 हेतु पंजाब व उत्तर प्रदेश के लिए परिव्ययों के क्षेत्र – वार आबंटन को दर्शाने वाला एक विवरण संलग्न हैं

विवरण

पजांब और उत्तर प्रदेश के परिव्ययों का क्षेत्र-वार आवंटन

(करोड़ रूपये)

क्र.स.	विकास के प्रमुख शीर्ष	पंजाब		उत्तर प्रदेश	
		मूल रूप से अनुमोदित परिव्यय 1995-96	मूल रूप से अनुमोदित परिव्यय 1996-97	मूल रूप से अनुमोदित परिव्यय 1995-96	मूल रूप से अनुमोदित परिव्यय 1996-97
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	कृषि एंव संबंधित कार्य	107.89	104.79	396.07	504.10
2.	ग्रामीण विकास	46.48	100.72	459.93	1047.33
3.	विशिष्ट क्षेत्र कार्यक्रम	13.76	11.53	80.00	80.00
4.	सिंचाई एंव बाढ़ नियत्रणं	151.43	171.12	460.32	625.93
5.	ऊर्जा	703.62	683.61	1886.43	1254.68
6.	उद्योग एंव खनिज	65.65	65.73	112.06	142.90
7.	परिवहन	61.08	61.28	528.71	596.18
8.	संचार	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
9.	विज्ञान,प्रौद्योगिकी एंव पर्यावरण	5.52	3.50	8.40	11.08
10.	सामान्य आर्थिक सेवाएं	41.28	60.40	298.26	409.81
11.	सामाजिक सेवाएं	444.09	550.99	1230.82	1832.01
12.	सामान्य सेवाएं	34.20	43.38	16.50	45.01
	कुल योग	1675.00	1857.05	5477.50	6549.03

Diversion of Funds for Poverty Alleviation Schemes

2795. SHRI SANATAN BISI: Will the Minister . of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) What have been the physical and financial achievements of major poverty alleviation programmes being implemented in various States during the last three years;

(b) whether diversion of funds from poverty alleviation programmes by any State Government has come to Government's notice; and

(c) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) The physical and financial achievement (State-wise) for major poverty alleviation programmes, namely Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) and Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS) being implemented in the rural areas of the country for the last three years is given at Anncxure. *[See Appendix 180. Annexure No. 58].*

(b) and (c) whenever complaints are received regarding diversion of funds from major poverty alleviation programames they are sent by the nodal Ministry (i.e. the Ministry of Rural Areas & employment) to the concerned State Government for necessary enquiry and appropriate action.

Functioning of Planning Commission

2796. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether World Bank has found any fault with the functioning of India's Planning Commission in fund monitoring;

(b) if so, the details in this regard; and

(c) the corrective steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) to (c) The information is being collected.

आंध्र प्रदेश में गरीबी उम्मूलन योजनायें

2797. **डा.वाई.लक्ष्मी प्रसाद**: क्या योजना और कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) सरकार द्वारा प्रायोजित गरीबी उम्मूलन योजनाओं को आन्ध्र प्रदेश के कौन-कौन से जिलों में कार्यान्वित किया गया हैं;

(ख) क्या इन योजनाओं की समीक्षा की गई हैं; यदि हां,तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या हैं;

(ग) क्या सरकार इन योजनाओं को पूर्णतः राज्य सरकार को अतंरित करने पर विचार कर रही हैं;और

(घ) इस संबंध में कब तक निर्णय लिए जाने की संभावना हैं?

योजना और कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री तथा विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री योगेन्द्र कुमार भगतराम अलघ): (क)प्रमुख ग्रामीण गरीबी उन्मूलन कार्यक्रम नामतः एकीकृत ग्रामीण विकास कार्यक्रम,जवाहर रोजगार योजना तथा रोजगार आश्वासन स्कीम आन्ध्र प्रदेश के सभी जलों के ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में कार्यान्वित किए जा रहे हैं ।

(ग) सरकार आंध प्रदेश सहित विभिन्न राज्यों में कार्यान्वित किए जा रहे ग्रामीण उन्मूलन कार्यक्रमों नामतः एकीकृत ग्रामीण विकास कार्यक्रम(आई.डी.पी.),जवाहर रोजगार योजना(जे.आर.वाई.) तथा रोजगार आश्वासन स्कीम(ई.ए.एस.) के क्रियान्वयन की केन्द्र स्तरीय समन्वय समितियों के माध्यम से तथा जिला स्तर पर जिला ग्रामीण विकास अभिकरणों (डी.आर.डी.ए.एस.) के शासकीय निकाय के माध्यम से नियमित रूप से समीक्षा करती है । अगर कार्यक्रमों की प्रमुख सकंतकों के आधार पर राज्यों द्वारा प्राप्त नियमित प्रगति रिपोर्टो के माध्यम से तथा केन्द्र,राज्य और कार्यान्वयन अभिकरणों के अधिकारियों द्वारा क्षेत्र परीक्षणों के माध्यम से समीक्षा की जाती है । इसके अतिरिक्त,वास्तविक प्रगति की भी कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन विभाग द्वारा मानिटरिंग की जाती है ।

इसके अतिरिक्त,ग्रामीण क्षेत्र और रोजगार मंत्रालय विभिन्न गरीबी उन्मूलन कार्यक्रमों के समय प्रभाव के आंकलन के लिए उनके प्रमुख स्कीमों का आबंधत आवधिक समवर्ती कराता है । आई आर डी.पी.(सितम्बर,92-फरवरी,93) तथा जे आर वाई (जनवरी-दिसम्बर,1992) के संबनध में नवीनतम समवर्ती मूल्यांकन रिपोर्ट के प्रमुख्या परिणाम विवरण-। तथा ॥ में क्रमशः संलग्र हैं(नीचे देखिए) ।

(ग) और (घ) राज्य सरकारों की केन्द्र प्रयोजित स्कीमों के स्थानान्तरण की समस्या की जांच करने के लिए योजना आयोग में कार्य किया जा रहा है । रिपोर्ट को शीघ्र ही अनतिम रूप दिया जाएगा तथा राज्यों को उनकी टिप्पणियों हेतु परिचालित किया जाएगा । इसके उपरांत इसे राष्ट्रीय विकास परिषद के अनुमोदन हेतु प्रस्तुत किया जाएगा ।

विवरण-।

एकीकृत ग्रामीण विकास कार्यक्रम (आई.आर.डी.पी) का समवर्ती मूल्याकंन

(सितम्बर,92-फरवरी,93)

कार्यात्मक सांराश

क.सकारात्मक मुद्दे

1.लाभग्राही परिवारों के चयन में विश्लेषण से पता चला कि 51.5% परिवार ग्राम सभा द्वारा,43% परिवार स्थानीय कर्मचारियों द्वारा तथा शेष लगभग 5% लोक प्रतिनिधियों और अन्य एजेंसियों द्वारा चयनित किए गए थे । इस प्रकार लाभग्राही परिवारों का एक बड़ा प्रतिशत ग्राम सभाओं द्वारा चयन किया गया था ।

2. कमजोर वर्गो में शारीरिक रूप से अपंग तथा अधिशेष भूमि के आबटियों को मिलने वाले लाभ काफी उत्साहजनक थे । सरकारी तौर पर 34.1% शारीरिक रूप से विकलांग व्यक्ति तथा 43.2% अधिशेष भूमि आवंटियों को आई आर डी पी कार्यक्रम से लाभ मिला ।

3.लाभग्राहियों को उपलब्ध कराई गई परिसम्पत्तियों के विश्लेषणों से पता चला कि परिवारों का एक बड़ा प्रतिशत (63%) को प्राथमिक सैक्टर तथा प्राथमिक सैक्टर के उप-सैक्टरों के तहत परिसम्पत्तियां उपलब्ध कराई गई थी और लगभग 50% सहायता दुधारू पशुओं के लिए दी गई थी ।

4.लाभग्राहियों को दी गई परिसम्पत्तियों की लागत के बारे में अनुमान के अनुसार विश्लेषणों से पताचला कि 85 प्रतिशत मामलों में लाभग्राहियों ने महसूस किया कि उनको दी गई परिसम्पत्तियां अपेक्षाकृत कम लागत की नहीं है ।

5.लाभग्राहियों के एक बड़े प्रतिशत (96%) ने महसूस किया कि उनको उपलब्ध कराई परिसम्पत्तियों का प्रकार उनके चयन के अनुरूप हैं ।

6. लाभग्राहियों को उपलब्ध कराई गई परिसम्पत्तियां की गुणवत्ता के अनुसार सरसरी तौर पर 69.42% अच्छी गुणवत्ता की पायी गई थी ।

7. लाभग्राहियों की परिवार आय के विश्लेषण से पता चला कि परिवारों के एक बड़े प्रतिशत

(56.58%) की परिसम्पत्तियों से वार्षिक पारिवारिक आय 2000/- रू.से अधिक हैं।

8.लाभग्राहियों से बकायों/वसूली के संबंध में सर्वेक्षण परिणामों से पता चला कि अधिकांश मामलों (59%) के ऊपर कोई राशि बकाया नहीं है और केवल 41% मामलों में कुछ राशि बकाया थी इस प्रकार लाभग्राहियों से वसूली दर सामान्य रूप से संतोषजन थीं।

9.परिसम्पत्तियां प्राप्त न करने के बाद निजी स्रोतों से लाभग्राहियों द्वारा लिए गए उधार के अनुसार,सर्वेक्षण परिणामों से पता चला कि लाभग्राहियों के एक उच्च प्रतिशत (95%) ने निजी स्रोतों से कोई रकम उधार नहीं ली।

10. लाभग्राहियों को उपलब्ध कराई गई परिसम्पत्तियों के निवेश तथा विपणन सुविधों को उपलब्धता के संबंध में विश्लेषणों से पला चला कि प्राथमिक सैक्टर में ऐसी सुविधाएं बड़ी मात्रा में उपलब्ध हैं।

11.प्रति परिवार समग्र निवेश के संदर्भ में सब्सिडी तथा ऋण को मिलाकर,विश्लेषण से पता चला कि तृतीय क्षेत्रक के मामले मेंयह अधिकतम अर्थात 7613/-रू.जबकि प्राथमिक सैक्टर में 7268/- रू.और द्वितीय सैक्टर में 6307/- रू. था।

12. सभी तीनों प्रमुख सैक्टरों के लिए किए गए अध्ययन से पता चला कि पुराने लाभान्वित परिवारों में से 14.81% ही 11000/-रू. की संशोधित गरीबी रेखा को पार कर सके और 50.4% परिवार 6400/- रू.की पुरानी गरीबी रेखा को पार करने में सफल हो सके।

13.आई आर डी पी के साथ ट्राईसेम के सम्पर्क का विश्लेषण किया गया। और देखने में आया कि 56.23% मामलों में लाभग्राहियों को उसी व्यापार/ कार्य के लिए सहायता मिली जिसके लिए प्रशिक्षित किया गया था।

(ख)**चिन्ता के क्षेत्र**

1.यह देखने में आया है कि पुराने लाभग्राहियों को दी गई सहायता की दूसरी किस्त की मात्रा बहुत कम थी। कल पुराने लाभग्राहियों में से केवल 3.28% को दूसरी किस्त दी गई। उसी प्रकार नये लाभग्राहियों के मामले में सहायता की दूसरी किस्त की मात्रा 2.61% से भी कम थीं। इस प्रकार पात्र परिवारों को परिवारों की सहायता की बाद की किस्ते उपलब्ध कराने हेतु अधिक ध्यान नहीं दिया गया।

2.यह देखने में आया कि सहायता प्राप्त परिवारों की वार्षिक परिवारिक आया बी पी एल सर्वेक्षण के दौरान अनुमानित राशि से कम थी। क्योंकि अन्वेषकों द्वारा किए गए मूल्याकंन के अनुसार लगभ्ज्ञग 4% लाभग्राही परिवारों की वार्षिक परिवार आय 11000/- रू.से अधिक थी लेकिन अभिलेखों के अनुसार किसी भी परिवार की वार्षिक आया 11000/- रू.प्रति वर्ष से अधिक नहीं थीं।

3.सामूहिक बीमा आश्वासन के बारे में लाभग्राहियों के बीच जागरूकता के संबंध में अध्ययन से पता चला कि लाभग्राहियों का अधिकांश प्रतिशत(58%) सामूहिक बीमा आश्वासन स्कीम के प्रति जागरूक नहीं था। इससे पता चलता है कि सामूहिक बीमा आश्वासन स्कीम का समुचित प्रचार नहीं किया गया।

4. नष्ट हुई परिसम्पत्तियों के लिए लाभग्राहियों द्वारा किए गए दावों के निबटान का भी विश्लेषण किया गया। और यह देखने में आया कि 56% मामलों में दावे अनिर्णीत रहे।

5. लाभग्राहियों को विकास पत्रिकाओं के अध्ययन से पता चला कि लाभग्राहियों के सिर्फ एक छोटे प्रतिशत (32%) को विकास पत्रिकाओं की आपूर्ति की गई जो कि एक गंभीर मामला है।

6.ट्राईसेम तथा डी डब्ल्यू सी आर ए के साथ आई आर डी पी का सम्पर्क बहुत कमजोर पाया गया। केवल 2.13% परिवारों ने सूचित किया कि डी डब्ल्यू सी आर के तहत उनके परिवार के किसी सदस्य को शायद ही सहायता मिली हो,लाभग्राहियों में से 3.88% ने ट्राईसेम के अंतर्गत प्रशिक्षिण प्राप्त करने की सूचना दी।

विवरण- II

जवाहर रोजगार योजना (जे.आर.वाई) का समवर्ती मूल्यांकन

(जनवरी-दिसम्बर,1992)

प्रमुख उपलब्धियां

क.सकारात्मक मुद्दे

1.यह अवलोकित किया गया है कि उपलब्ध निधियों के एक बड़े हिस्से को,अर्थात लगभग 73% को ग्राम पंचायतों द्वारा अखिल भारतीय स्तर पर जे

आर वाई के अंतर्गत समुदाय विकास परियोजनाएं शुरू करने के लिए खर्च किया गया था । कुछ राज्यों जैसे जम्मू-कश्मीर,सिक्किम,त्रिपुरा,अंडमान व निकोबार द्वीपसमूह,दिल्ली और पांडिचेरी ने अपने निपटान पर उपलब्ध निधियों के शत-प्रतिशत से अधिक का उपयोग कर लिया था ।

2. परिसम्पत्ति निर्माण के तहत यह अवलोकित किया गया है कि ग्रामीण सम्पर्क सड़कों,पंचायत घर,स्कूल भवनों,समुदाय केन्द्रों आदि के निर्माण को ग्राम पंचायतों द्वारा अखिल भारतीय स्तर पर उच्च प्राथमिकता प्राप्त हुई थी- ग्राम पंचायतों द्वारा पूरी की गई परिसम्पत्तियों का मोटे तौर 57% इस प्रकार के कार्यकलापों से संबंधित था । इसके अतिरिक्त इस प्रकार की परिसंपत्तियों के माध्यम से ग्राम समुदायों को आधार संरचना सुविधा मुहैया करा के ग्राम पंचायतें ग्रामीण गरीबों के लिए अधिक रोजगार अवसर सृजित कर सकती हैं ।

3.दिशानिर्देर्शो के अनुसार जे आर वाई कार्यो के अंतर्गत अकुशल कामगरों को प्रति श्रम दिवस औसत मजदूरी भुगतान राज्य न्यूनतम मजदूरी अधिनयम के अंतर्गत निर्धारित न्यूनतम मजदूरी के अनुसार होना चाहिए । सर्वेक्षण परिणाम ने सूचित किया है कि पंजाब को छोड़कर लगभग सभी राज्यों /संघ राज्य क्षेत्रों में अकुशल कामगारों को प्रति श्रम दिवस औसत मजदूरी भुगतान कमोवेश अधिनियम के अतंर्गत निर्धारित न्यूनतम मजदूरी के बराबर था । इसके अतिरिक्त,काम न होने /काम कम होने के मौसम में अकुशल कामगारों को दी जाने वाली मजदूरी भुगतान दरें निर्धारित न्यूनतम मजदूरी दरों के निकट थीं । यद्यपि कतिपय राज्यों जैसे बिहार,मध्य प्रदेश और उड़ीसा में काम न होने/कम होने के मौसम में स्थानीय मजदूरी दरें निर्धारित न्यूनतम मजदूरी दरों से थोड़ी सी कम थीं । अन्य सभी राज्यों में ये निर्धारित न्यूनतम मजदूरी दरों से थोड़ी सी ऊंची अथवा उसके निकट थीं ।

4. सर्वेक्षण परिणाम ने सृजित किया है कि ग्राम पंचायतों द्वारा शुरू किए गए जो जे आई वाई कार्यों के व्यय का मजदूरी और गैर-मजदूरी घटक 60:40 की तुलना में अखिल भारतीय स्तर पर 53:47 था और अधिकतर राज्य मानकों को पूरा करते थे ।

5. मजदूरी भुगतान के आवर्तन के संबंध में सर्वेक्षण परिणाम ने सृजित किया है कि अधिकतर मामलों में (60%) जे आर वाई कामगारों को भुगतान दैनिक आधार पर अथवा साप्ताहिक आधार पर किया जाता है । कुछ ही मामलों में ये पाक्षिक अथवा मासिक आधार पर था। यद्यपि कुछ राज्यों में मजदूरी भुगतान का आवर्तन अनियमित था ।

6. सर्वेक्षण ने सूचित किया था कि 84% मामलों में नामावली का रख-रखाव किया जा रहा था और वे ग्राम पंचायतों के पास उपलब्ध थीं । यह बहुत उत्साहवर्धक है क्योंकि रोजगार सृजन के निर्धारण के लिए नामावली एक महत्वपूर्ण दस्तावेज हैं ।

7. सर्वेक्षण ने सृजित किया था कि इस कार्यक्रम के अंतर्गत निर्मित परिसंपत्तियों मे से मौटे तौर पर 74% को अच्छा/संतोषजनक,8%खराब और शेष 18% को या तो अधूरा पाया गया और या निर्धारित मापदण्डों के अनुसार नहीं पाया गया ।

8.इस संबंध में सामान्य दिशानिर्देशनों को परा करते हुए सृजित रोजगार में क्रमशः अनुसूचित जाति/ जनजाति और भूमिविहीन श्रमिकों का हिस्सा 54%और 38% था ।

9. यह अवलोकित किया गया है कि एक जे आर वाई कामगार को संदर्भ अवधि के दौरान मौटे तौर पर 4 श्रम दिवस का रोजगार प्राप्त हुआ था । इसके अतिरिक्त मोटे तौर पर रोजगार का एक श्रम दिवस उसके परिवार के अन्य सदस्यों को प्राप्त हुआ था । इस प्रकार सर्वेक्षण की तारीख से पूर्व पिछले तीस दिनों के दौरान समग्र रूप से एक परिवार के लिए अखिल भारतीय स्तर पर सृजित रोजगार के श्रम दिवस की औसम संख्या 5 श्रम दिवस थी जो उनकी आवश्यकताओं के अनुसार बहुत कम हैं । यद्यपि यह संतोषजनक है कि कतिपय राज्यों जैसे असम,गोवा,उड़ीसा और लक्षद्वीप में सृजित रोजगार का औसत श्रम दिवस अखिल भारतीय स्तर से बहुत अधिक (10 से अधिक)था ।उदाहरणार्थ उड़ीसा राज्य में,जहां गरीबी की घटनाएं अधिक है,जे आर वाई कामगार को संदर्भ अवधि के दौरान औसत पर 12.32 श्रम दिवसों तक रोजगार प्राप्त हुआ था । इस प्रकार असम,गोवा,उड़ीसा और लक्षद्वीप में रोजगार सृजन के अनुरूप आंकड़ें सर्वेक्षण की तारीख से पूर्व 30 दिनों के दौरान क्रमशः10.72,22.06 और 22.10 श्रम दिवस थे ।

10. निर्मित परिसम्पत्तियों का अधिकतर मामलों (50%) में रख-रखाव ग्राम पंचायतों द्वारा किया जा रहा था । यद्यपि 17.5 मामलों में इनका रख-रखाव किसी भी एजेंसी द्वारा नहीं किया जा रहा था ।

11. जे आर वाई कामगारों ने एक मत से सूचित किया था कि निर्मित परिसंपत्तियां गरीब लोगों के लिए उपयोगी थीं । 74% के लगभग कामगर जे आर वाई के

अंतर्गत प्राप्त होने वाले लाभों से भी संतुष्ट थे । यद्यपि एक तिहाई का यह मत था कि मजदूरी दरों को बढ़ाया जाना चाहिए क्योंकि वह कम थीं ।

ख.चिन्ता के क्षेत्र

(i) सर्वेक्षण ने सूचित किया था कि अखिल भारतीय स्तर पर चुनी गई पंचायतों के 3081 अध्यक्ष में से केवल 39% जे आर वाई कार्यो के कार्यान्वयन हेतु प्रशिक्षण स्तर तक पहुंच सके । यह जे आर वाई कार्यो के लिए ग्राम पंचायतों हेतु निर्धारित किए गए मार्गदर्शी सिद्वांतों के अनुरूप नहीं है । अतएव प्रशिक्षण कार्यक्रमों के माध्यम से ग्राम पंचायतों के शीर्षो को और अधिक अभिमुख बनाने की जरूरत है ।

(ii) कुल सृजित रोजगार में महिलाओं का हिस्सा केवल 20% था । मार्गदर्शी सिद्वान्तों के अनुसार 30% रोजगार के अवसर महिलाओं के लिए सुनिश्चत किए जाने चाहिए ।

(iii) असम,जम्मू व कश्मीर,त्रिपुरा,दादरा व नगर हवेली,दिल्ली,लक्षद्वीप तथा पांडिचेरी जैसे कतिपय राज्यों में निर्धारित मार्गदर्शी सिद्वान्तों के अनुसार वार्षिक कार्य योजनाओं पर ग्राम सभा की बैठकों में विचार-विमर्श नहीं किया गया । इससे ग्राम पंचायतों की कार्य प्रणाली में खामियों का पता चलता है ।

(iv) सर्वेक्षण न ग्राम पंचायतों द्वारा कार्य को पूरा करने में देरी के विभिन्न कारणों की जांच पड़ताल की । कार्यो के ग्राम पंचायतों द्वारा पूरा न किए जाने का मुख्य कारण " निधियों की कमी" थी । मौटे तौर पर अखिल भारतीय स्तर पर कार्यो में देरी निधियों में कमी की वजह से हुई थीं । कुछ राज्यों जैसे गोवा,हरियाणा,जम्मू व कश्मीर,कर्नाटक,मणिपुर आदि मौटे तौर पर कार्यो के 80% से शत-प्रतिशत निधियों की कमी के कारण पूरा नहीं कर सके थे ।

(v) सामान्य तौर पर ग्राम पंचायतों से उनके द्वारा शुरू किए गए विभिन्नकार्यो के लिए स्थानीय रूप से उपलब्ध सामग्री का उपयोग करने की आशा की जाती है । यद्यपि,सर्वेक्षण परिणाम ने सूचित किया है कि स्थानीय रूप से उपलब्ध सामग्री का उपयोग पर्याप्त नहीं था ।

(vi) सर्वेक्षण परिणामों ने पुरूष और महिला अकुशल कामगार का प्रति श्रम दिवस औसम मजदूरी भुगतान में कुछ असमानता को सूचित किया है। दिशानिर्देशों के अनुसार अकुशल पुरूष या महिला कामगार को प्रति श्रम दिवस औसत मजदूरी भुगतान में कोई असमानता नहीं होनी चाहिए । सर्वेक्षण परिणाम ने दर्शाया है कि कुछ राज्यों जैसे आंध्र प्रदेश,केरल,महाराष्ट्र,तमिलनाडु पांडिचेरी में पुरूष और महिला अकुशल कामगार को दिए जाने वाले प्रति श्रम दिवस औसत मजदूरी भुगतान में असमानता थीं ।

(vii) दिशा निर्देशों के अनुसार गरीबी रेखा से नीचे के ग्रामीण गरीब लक्ष्प्त वर्ग की सरंचना करते हैं । यद्यपि सर्वेक्षण परिणाम ने सूचित किया है कि जे आर वाई कार्यों में भाग लेने वाले कुल कामगारों में से मौटे तौर पर 57% की वार्षिक आय 6401/- रूपये अथवा अधिक है और केवल 43% की वार्षिक आय 6400/- रूपये से कम है । इस प्रकार यह देखा जा सकता है कि जे आई वाई कामगारों का एक बड़ा हिस्सा जो अपात्र श्रेणी से संबंधित है,ने जे आर वाई कार्यक्रम का लाभ उठाया था ।

प्रधानमंत्री द्वारा घोषित आर्थिक पैकेज

2798.**श्री राजनाथ सिंह "सूर्य"**:क्या योजना और कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) प्रधान मंत्री ने पदभार ग्रहण करने के बाद कुल कितने आर्थिक पैकेजों की घोषणा की है;

(ख) क्या यह सच है कि ये आर्थिक पैकेज विभिन्न विभागों/मंत्रालयों से संबंधित है;

(ग) क्या इन आर्थिक पैकेजों/कार्यक्रमों के कार्यान्वयन के लिए कोई समय-सीमा निर्धारित की गई है और क्या कार्यान्वयन की प्रक्रिया की निगरानी के लिए कोई केन्द्रीय तंत्र गठित किया गया हैं;

(घ) यदि हां,तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है;और

(ङ) यदि नहीं,तो इसके क्या कारण हैं?

योजना और कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री तथा विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री योगेन्द्र कुमार भगतराम अलघ): (क) प्रधानमंत्री द्वारा घोषित आर्थिक पैकेजों के ब्यौरों को रेखांकित करते हुए विवरण में संलग्र किया गया हैं । (नीचे देखिए) ।

(ख) जी हां,

(ग) और (घ) कार्यक्रम आरंभ हो गए है और आशा है कि नौंवी पंचवर्षीय योजना के अंत तक ये पूरे हो जाएंगे । इन कार्यक्रमों को,गृह मंत्रालय में उत्तर पूर्व

प्रभाग,जम्मू व कश्मीर मामला विभाग और प्रधान मंत्री कार्यलय में विशेष प्रकोष्ठ द्वारा मानीटर किया जा रहा हैं।

(ड़) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

विवरण-I

प्रधान मंत्री द्वारा घोषित आर्थिक पैकेज

(i) प्रधान मंत्री ने 22 अक्टूबर से 27 अक्टूबर,1996 तक उत्तर पूर्व के सभी सात राज्यों का दौरा किया ।दौरों के समापन पर,प्रधान मंत्री ने उत्तर –पूर्वी क्षेत्र के लिए कतिपय नए पैकेजों की घोषणा की । नए पैकेजों की मुख्य बातें निम्रानुसार हैं:

1.सभी केन्द्रीय मंत्रालय/विभाग अपने बजट का कम से कम 10 प्रतिशत उत्तर-पूर्वी राज्यों में विशिष्ट कार्यक्रमों के लिए निर्धारित करेंगे।

2. चालू परियोजनाओं के लिए पूरी वित्त व्यवस्था।

3. ब्रहापुत्र बाढ़ नियंत्रण परियोजनाओं को केन्द्र से शत प्रतिशत अनुदान मिलेगा।

4. रोजगार आश्वासन स्कीम को उत्तर – पूर्वी राज्यों में सभी ब्लाकों तक बढ़ाया जाएगा।

5.उत्तर-पूर्वी राज्यों को उन्न ऋण प्रवाह।

6. दूर-संचार तथा इलेक्ट्रानिक माध्यम के जरिए उत्तर-पूर्व का पूर्ण कवरेज।

7. उत्तर-पूर्वीय क्षेत्र के लिए नई औद्योगिक नीति विकसित की जाएगी।

8. एक एकीकृत पर्यटन विकास योजना तैयार की जाएगी।

9. 6100 करोड़ रू.की कुल अनुमानित लागत पर प्रत्येक राज्य के लिए परियोजना पैकेज घोषित किया गया।

(ii) प्रधान मंत्री ने 13-14 फरवरी 1997 को जम्मू व कश्मीर यात्रा के दौरान विकास प्रक्रिया को तेज करने और जम्मू व कश्मीर में सामान्य स्थिति बहाल करने की दृष्टि से निम्रांकित पैकेजों की घोषणा की।

— राज्य वार्षिक योजना(1996-97) का परिव्यय 1250 करोड़ रू.तक बढ़ाया।

— नौंवी पंचवर्षीय योजना में उपयुक्त परिव्यय व्यवस्था हेतु राज्य सरकार को सक्षम बनाया जाएगा।

— वार्षिक योजना 1997-98 को आगे बढ़ाया जाएगा और इस प्रयोजनार्थ आवश्यक समर्थन दिया जाएगा ताकि यह सुनिश्चित किया जा सके कि प्रत्येक वर्ष के लिए निर्धारित योजना परिव्यय अनुमानित है और संसाधनों में गैर-योजना अन्तराल को पाटने के लिए निधियां भी उपलब्ध कराई जाती हैं।

- केन्द्र सरकार उग्रवाद के कारण क्षतिग्रस्त आधार संरचना के पुनर्स्थापन हेतु अतिरिक्त सहायता उपलब्ध कराएगी । नौंवी योजना में ग्रामीण विकासा तथा बुनियादी न्यूनतम सेवाओं के प्रयोजनार्थ लगभग 1500 करोड़ रू.की राशि उपलब्ध कराई जाएगी। राज्य सरकारों को क्षतिग्रस्त अवसंरचना की बहाली लागत को इस राशि के नाम डालने के लिए अधिकृत किया जाएगा।

- राज्य के और अधिक कस्बों को प्रधान मंत्री के एकीकृत गरीबी उन्मूलन कार्यक्रम के अन्तर्गत लाया जाएगा।

- केन्द्रीय परियोजना से विद्युत आवंटन को 600 मेगावाट से 876 मेगावाट तक बढ़ाया जाएगा ताकि राज्य में विद्युत की कमी को पूरा किया जा सके।

- डल तथा अन्य महत्वपूर्ण झीलों के संरक्षण तथा विकास,घाटी में बाढ़ नियंत्रण हेतु मास्टर प्लान और गंगा कार्य योजना की तरह झेलम के नौवहन तथा पर्यावरणीय पहलुओं में सुधार हेतु कार्य योजना जैसी परियोजनाओं के क्रियान्वयन हेतु विदेशी सहायता सहित विशेष वित्त पोषा कार्यविधि विकसित की जाएगी

- जम्मू व कश्मीर में उर्वरकों के परिवहन को पूर्ण सब्सिडी प्रदान की जाएगी।

यह प्रधान मंत्री द्वारा 23.07.1996 तथा 2.8.1996 को संसद के दोनों सदनों में प्रधान मंत्री द्वारा की गई अन्य घोषणाओं के अतिरिक्त हैं।

Assistance given to North-Eastern States

2799. SHRI W. ANGOU SINGH: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of assistance given by the Central Government for rebuilding the economy of the North-Eastern States;

(b) the State-wise basis of seeking assistance as per their needs; and

(c) whether Government propose to grant assistance to each State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) to (c) Allocation of Normal Central assistance to the States have been made according to Gadgil—Mukherjee formula approved by the National Development Council in December, 1991. Under the formula, 30% of the total divisible pool of Normal Central assistance is set apart in order to, meet the requirements of Special Category States (including North Eastern States) Allocations of Normal Central assistance among Special Category States are made keeping in view the available Normal Central assistance, resources of States and their rquirements.

Further, for 1996-97, 30% of the total additional Central assistance provided for Basic Minimum Services to the States was allocated among Special Category States in proportion to the allocation of Normal central assistance for previous year and for slum development on the basis of slum population for 1991. The State-wise allocations of Normal Central assistance made to the North Eastern States for current year are given in the statement attached, *(See* below) while allocations for next year (1997-98) are yet to be finalised.

Statement

Central Assistance to North Eastern States—1996-97

(Rs. Crore)

States	Net Normal Central Assistance*	Basic Minimum Services	Slum Deve-lopment	Total
1	2	3	4	5
Arunachal Pradesh	383.17	62.18	0.11	445.46
Assam	946.36	154.14	2.22	1102.72
Manipur	282.00	44.30	0.45	326.75**
Meghalaya	227.34	37.03	0.40	264.77
Mizoram	226.37	36.87	0.34	263.58
Nagaland	232.49	37.53	0.24	270.26
Tripura	290.22	46.37	0.39	336.98
Total	2587.95	418.42	4.15	3010.52

*After adjustment of Advance Plan Assistance given in the past.

**Including Rs. 10 crores additional Central Assistance as one time allocation.

Per Capita Income in Rajasthan and Orissa

2800. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) the per capita income in Rajasthan and Orissa during 1950, 1980, 1990 and 1996-97; and

(b) the details of new schemes formulated by Government to increase per capita income as well as for raising the standard of people in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND

TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) Estimates of Per capita income in Rajasthan and Orissa for the years 1950-51, 1980-81, 1990-91 and 1996-97, are given below;

(Rs. At current Prices)

Year	Rajasthan	Orissa
1950-51	N.A.	148
1980-81	1222	1314
1990-91	4191	3077
1996-97*	7992	N.A.

N.A. : Not available
* : Advance Estimates
Source: Directorate of Economic & Statistics of respective State.

(b) Besides general growth process several schemes exist for increasing the income of specific sections of the population as well as improving the standard of living of the people are carried out. These include the existing employment and income generating programmes and asset building for the poor. The main among these programmes are the Integrated Rural Development Programme, Jawahar Rozgar Yojana, Nehru Rozgar Yojana and Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana. Basic minimum Needs Programme has also been launched last year.

M.Ps Complaints regarding delay in release of funds for MPLADS

2801. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) the year upto which funds under MPLADS have been released in respect of all the Members from Gujarat;

(b) whether Government have received complaints from Members of parliament, particularly those from Gujarat, regarding non-release or delay in release of funds against development projects under the Scheme;

(c) if so, the details of funds released during the last three years for different M.Ps from the State and the reasons for delay, if any; and

(d) the details of the approved projects still pending in the State due to delay in release of funds, as well as due to delay on the part of implementing authority?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) The MPLADS funds have been released in respect of all the Members of parliament from Gujarat for the year 1996-97.

(b) some Members of Parliament including those from Gujarat have complained about delay in release of funds under Member of Parliament Local Area Development Programme by District Administration.

(c) The details of the funds released to members of Parliament (Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha) from Gujarat during 1993-94 to 1995-96 and in 1996-97 are given in statement-I and II respectively *(see* below).

(d) Exact phazing details of such schemes are not maintained by the Department of programme Implementation.

Statements

MPLADS funds released in respect of LS & RS MP's from Gujarat state during 1993-94 to 1995-96

Financial year

Sl. No.	Name of the MP	93-94	94-95	95-96	Total
			(Rs. In	Lakhs)	
1.	(LS) SH. SOMJIBHAI DAMOR	5	100	100	205
2.	(LS) SH. CHHITUBHAI GAMIT	5	100	100	205
3.	(LS) SHRI A. K. PATEL	5	100	100	205
4.	(LS) SH. SHANKERSINH VAGHELA	5	100	100	205
5.	(LS) SMT. DIPIKA TOPIWALA	5	100	100	205
6.	(LS) SH. CHANDRESH PATEL	5	100	100	205
7.	(LS) DR. K. D. JESWANI	5	100	100	205
8.	(LS) SHRI MAHESHKUMAR KANODIA	5	100	100	205
9.	(LS) SRI. CHANDUBHAI DESHMUKH	5	100	100	205
10.	(LS) SH. DILIP BHAI SANGHANI	5	100	100	205
11.	(LS) SHRI HARIBHAI PATEL	5	100	100	205
12.	(LS) SHRI UTTAMBHAI PATEL	5	100	100	205
13.	(LS) SHRI SOMABHAI G. PATEL	5	100	100	205
14.	(LS) SH. ARVIND TRIVEDI	5	100	100	205
15.	(LS) SH. ISHWARBHAI K. CHAVADA	5	100	100	205
16.	(LS) SH. HARIN PATHAK	5	100	100	205
17.	(LS) SHRI KASHIRAM RANA	5	100	100	205
18.	(LS) SHRI N. J. RATAWA	5	100	100	205
19.	(LS) SHRI HARISINGH CHAVDA	5	100	100	205
20.	(LS) SH. G. M. THAKORE	5	100	100	205
21.	(LS) SHRI L. K. ADVANI	5	100	100	205
22.	(LS) SH. RATILAL VERMA	5	100	100	205
23.	(LS) SHRI SHIVLAL VEKARIYA	5	100	100	205
24.	(LS) SMT. BAVANABEN D. CHKHALIYA	5	100	100	205
25.	(LS) SHRI MAHAVIRSINH H. GOHIL	5	100	100	205
26.	(LS) SH. HARILAL NANJI PATEL	5	100	100	205
27.	(RS) SH. RAM SINGH RATWA	5	—	—	5
28.	(RS) SH. ANATRAI DAVESHANKAR	5	100	100	205
29.	(RS) SH. V. BHAI PATEL	5	——		5
30.	(RS) SMT. ANANDIBEN PATEL	—	100	100	200
31.	(RS) SH. KANAKSINH. M. MANGROLA	5	100	100	205
32.	(RS) SH. GOPALSINH G. SOLANKI	5	100	100	205
33.	(RS) SH. DINESHBHAI TRIVEDI	5	100	100	205
34.	(RS) SH. CHIMANBHAI MEHTA	—	100	100	200
35.	(RS) DR. SMT URMILABEN PATEL	5	100	100	205
36.	(RS) SH. RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR	5	100	100	205
37.	(RS) SHRI. CHIMANBHAI SUKLA	5	100	100	205
38.	(RS) SHRI. AHMED PATEL	5	100	100	205
39.	(RS) SH. MADHAVSINH SOLANKI	5	100	100	205

Statement-II

MPLADS funds released in respect of LS's & RS MP's from Gujarat state during 1996-97

SI No.		Name of the MP	Financial year	1996-97 (Rs. in Lakhs)
1.	(LS)	SH. P.S. GADHVI		100
2.	(LS)	SH. SANAT MEHTA		100
3.	(LS)-	SH. K.V.C. PATEL (CHANDRESH)		100
4.	(LS)	DR. VALLABHBHAI R. KATHIRIA		100
5.	(LS)	SH. GORDHANBHAI J. JAVIYA		100
6.	(LS)	SMT. BHAVANABEN D. CHIKHALIYA		100
7.	(LS)	SH. DILEEP SANGHANI		100
8.	(LS)	SH. R. G. RANA BHAI		100
9.	(LS)	SH. RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA		100
10.	(LS)	SH. HARIN PATHAK		100
11.	(LS)	SH. VIJAY PATEL		100
12.	(LS)	DR. A.K. PATEL		100
13.	(LS)	SH. MAHESHKUMAR M. KANODIA		100
14.	(LS)	SH. B.K. GADHAVI		100
15.	(LS)	SMT. NISHA A. CHAUDHARY		100
16.	(LS)	SH. JAYSINGH JI M. CHAUHAN		100
17.	(LS)	SH. SOMJIBHAI P. DAMOR		100
18.	(LS)	SH. SHANTILAL PARSOTAMDAS PATEL		100
19.	(LS)	SH. DINSHA PATEL		100
20.	(LS)	SH. ISHWARBHAI KHODABHAI CHAVDA		100
21.	(LS)	SH. N. J. RATHAWA		100
22.	(LS)	SH. SATYAJITSINH DILIPSINH GAEKWAD		100
23.	(LS)	SH. CHANDUBHAI DESHMUKH		100
24.	(LS)	SH. KANSHIRAM RANA		100
25.	(LS)	SH. CHHITUBHAI D. GAMIT		100
26.	(LS)	SH. MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHARI		100
27.	(RS)	DR. YOGINDER KUMAR BHAGATRAM ALAGH		100
28.	(RS)	SH. BHATTA B. RANCHHODLAL		100
29.	(RS)	SH. ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE		100
30.	(RS)	SH. BANGARU LAXMANJI B. NARSIMHA		100
31.	(RS)	SH. GOPALSINH G. SOLANKI		100
32.	(RS)	SMT. ANANDIBEN JETHABHAI PATEL		100
33.	(RS)	SMT. URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL		100
34.	(RS)	SH. RAJUBHAI A, PARMAR		100
35.	(RS)	SH. CHIMANBHAI HARIBHAI SHUKLA		100
36.	(RS)	SH. AHMED PATEL		100
37.	(RS)	SH. MADHAVSINH SOLANKI		100

Channelising black-money for the Development of Backward areas

2802. SHRI SHIV CHARAN SINGH: Will 'the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission . has put forth a scheme for channelising black-money for development of backward and hilly areas, as part of the strategy to augment resources for the Ninth Five Year Plan, overcoming regional imbalances in the process;

(b) if so, the broad outlines of the strategy for simphonning off black money to backward areas; and

(c) the other resources for funding the Ninth Five Yar Plan which are being tapped both by the Centre and State Governments, so as to ensure effective decentralisation of the planning process?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) and (b) No. Sir. However, keeping in view the large and growing black or parallel economy in India which has been a drag on the development process and on the ability of the Government to meet the pressing needs of the poor and vulnerable sections of the people, it has been decided to tap these forms of income and wealth to the greatest extent possible in order to provide the necessary resources for growth and development.

(c) In order to meet the fund requirements of Ninth Plan, various efforts like introduction of expenditure based presumptive income tax, broadening of tax base and maximisation of realisation of non-tax revenues viz. augmentation of irrigation charges, royalties on minerals and revision of user charges, reduction of fiscal deficit by way of sale of seized contraband gold and some of Government lands and through disinvestment of PSU shares. In addition efforts are being made to reduce the quantum of subsidies and to increase the efficiency of public sector undertakings through professionalising the management of these companies, greater involvement of workers in their management and removal of Government inteference in the operation of these enterprises.

In addition State Finance Commissions have been set up to make recommendations for transfer of resources from the respective State to Panchayati Raj Institutions so as to facilitate effective decentralisation of the Planning process during the Ninth Plan.

Abolition of the Department of Jammu & Kashmir

2803. SHRI S. MUTHU MANI: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that after establishing a popular Government in Jammu & Kashmir, the Central Government Department of Jammu & Kashmir Affairs has become irrelevant;

(b) if so, whether Government are considering to abolish the said Department; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) to (c) According to information available with the Planning Commission there is no proposals to wind up Department of J&K Affairs in Government of India as close attention to the situation and development in J&K continues to be necessary.

Shelving of Central Sector Projects

2804. VEDPRAKASH P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering shelving of those central projects in the core sector which have crossed 60 per cent of their gestation period and have consumed 5 per cent of their project cost;

(b) if so, the names of such projects and the amount already spent on them;

(c) whether Government would fix responsibility for the tardy progress in completion of these projects; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to ensure that other ongoing projects or future projects do not fall in the above category?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) Yes sir.

(b) No decision has been taken so far.

(c) Does not arise, in view of (b) above.

(c) Measures generally taken to improve the pace of implementation are given in Statement.

Statement

Steps taken by the Government to Streamline for Preparing the Original Estimates and Implementation of Projects

(i) Two-stage project approval for facilitating adequate preparation, environmental and other clearances and infrastructure planning at stage I before a project is finally approved for implementation at stage II.

(ii) Proper monitoring of projects at regular intervals, at various levels to identify constraints and take remedial measures

(iii) Indepth review of the progress by the project authorities and Administrative Ministries.

(iv) Setting up of Task Force/ Empowered Committees for speedy finalsation of contract packages, solving land acquisition and other problems.

(v) Close follow up by the concerned administrative Ministries and project authorities with the State Government, equipment suppliers, contractors, consultants and other concerned agencies to minimise delays.

(vi) Inter-ministerial coordination.

Rural Population Below the Poverty Line

2805. PROF. RAM KAPSE: Will the Minsiter of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of a NCA & R Survey which reveals that 39% of the rural population is living below the poverty line; if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Planning Commission had claimed about a year ago that the population living below the poverty line was 19%;

(c) if so, the reasons for the anomaly figures quoted by the Planning Commission; and

(d) whether correct estimate of the actual poverty percentage is not available with the Planning Commission; if so, how the viability of various development schemes launched by Government can be justified?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF THE STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) A study on Human Development Profile of India conducted by NCAER based on a survey on

household income has estimated the percentage of people below the poverty line in rural areas of 16 States as 39 per cent in 1994.

(b) Based on the methodology outlined in the report of the Task Force on Projection of Minimum Needs and Effective Consumption Demand (1979), the incidence of poverty in the country was estimated as 18.96 per cent in 1993-94 based on the data of Sub Sample-I of National Sample Survey on Consumer Expenditure, 50th Round.

(c) The differences in the two estimates are due to the methodology adopted and the data base.

(d) The Planning Commission estimates the incidence of povety using the quinquennial National Sample Survey data on Consumer Expenditure. The incidence of poverty in 1993-94 is estimated as 35.97 per cent following the recently adopted official methodology which is based on the report of the Expert Group on Estimation of Proportion and Number of Poor.

अनुसूचित जाति एंव अनुसूचित जनजाति से संबद्व बेरोजगार युवकों के निर्धारण हेतु समिति गठित करना

2806.**श्री रामजीलाल**:

श्री अजीत जोगी:

क्या योजना और कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार ने देश में अनुसूचित जातियों/ अनुसूचित जनजातियों से संबद्व बेरोजगार युवकों की संख्या के मूल्यांकन हेतु किसी समिति का गठन किया है;

(ख) यदि हां,तो ऐसे युवकों की राज्य-वार संख्या कितनी है और यदि उपर्युक्त भाग"क" का उत्तर नहीं हो तो क्या ऐसा आकलन किया जाएगा;और

सरकार दवारा उन युवकों को रोजगार के अवसर प्रदान करने हेतु क्या नई कार्यवाही और पहल की गई हैं?

योजना और कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री तथा विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री(श्री योगेन्द्र कुमार भगतराम अलघ): (क) से (ग) अनु.जाति/अनुजनजाति के बेरोजगार युवाओं को संख्या के मूल्यांकन हेतु कोई समिति गठन नहीं की गई है और इस समय ऐसी कोई समिति गठित करने का प्रस्ताव नहीं है । बहरहाल,मौजूदा गरीबी उन्मूलन स्कीमों के लाभ,जो रोजगार मुहैया कराती है,अनु.जातियों तथा अनुसूचित जनजातियों सहित सभी ही प्राप्त हो रहे हैं । ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में रोजगार मुहैया कराने वाली प्रमुख गरीबी उन्मूलन कार्यक्रम है,एकीकृत ग्रामीण विकास कार्यक्रम,जवाहर रोजगार योजना तथा रोजगार आश्वासन स्कीम/जनसंख्या के कमजोर वर्गो का पर्याप्त कवरेज सुनिश्चित करने के लिए इन गरीबी उम्मूलन कार्यक्रमों में विशेष एहतियाती कदम उठाए जाते हैं। आईआरडीपी के अन्तर्गत इस बात पर विचार किया जा रहा है कि कवर किए गए लाभ ग्राहियों में से 50%अनु.जातियों तथा अनु.जनजातियों से संबंधित होने चाहिए । जेआरवाई तथा इएएस के तहत गरीबी की रेखा से नीचे के व्यक्ति लक्षित समूह में आते हैं,जिसमें से अनुसूचित जातियों,अनु.जनजातियों तथा मुक्त बन्धुआ मजदूरों को प्राथमिकता प्रदान की जाती है । शहरी विकास सेक्टर में दो शहरी गरीबी उम्मूलन स्कीमें चल रही हैं ये है: नेहरू रोजगार योजना एंव प्रधानमंत्री का एकीकृत शहरी गरीबी उन्मूलन कार्यक्रम/प्रधानमंत्री की रोजगार योजना केन्द्रीय योजना स्कीम के रूप में कार्यान्वित की जा रही है ताकि ग्रामीण तथा शहरी,दोनों क्षेत्रों में शिक्षित बेरोजगार युवाओं को रोजगार के अवसर उपलब्ध कराए जा सकें । पीएमआरवाई के अन्तर्गत,अनु.जाति/अनु.जनजाति लाभग्राहियों के लिए 22.5% आरक्षण का प्रावधान है । कल्याण मंत्रालय आदिवासी क्षेत्रो में व्यावसासिक प्रशिक्षण संबंधी एक स्कीम कार्यान्वित करता है,जो आदिवासी युवाओं को रोजगार/ स्वरोजगार के अवसर उपलब्ध कराता हैं ।

केन्द्रीय योजनाओं में विलंब होना

2807. **श्री नागमणि**:

श्री ईश दत्त यादव:

क्या योजना और कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि विलंबित केंद्रीय योजनाओं की संख्या बढ़ रही हैं;

(ख) यदि हां,तो तत्संबंधी कारणों सहित उनका ब्यौरा क्या हैं;

(ग) क्या यह सच है कि विभिन्न विभागोंमें समन्वय नहीं रहने के कारण ऐसी विलंबित योजनाओं की संख्या में वृद्वि हो रही हैं;

(घ) यदि हां,तो उन विभागों के नाम क्या है और इन योजनाओं के विलंब के लिए जिम्मेदार कारक कौन-कौन से हैं;

(ड़) इन योजनाओं को समय पर चलाने हेतु सरकार ने क्या-क्या कदम उठाए हैं और सरकार को इस संबंध में कितनी सफलता प्राप्त हुई हैं ?

योजना और कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन मंत्रायल के राज्य मंत्री तथा विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री योगेन्द्र कुमार भगतराम अलघ): (क) कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन विभाग में उपलब्ध सूचना के अनुसार केंद्रीय क्षेत्र की 20 करोड़ रूपए और उससे अधिक की लागत वाली निर्माणधीन परियोजनाओं की कुल संख्या तथा विगत चार वर्षो की अवधि में विलंब से पल रही परियोजनाओं की संख्या निम्नलिखित हैं:

		दिनांक			
		14.93	14.94	1.4.95	1.4.96
1.	परियोजनाओं की कुल स.	352	371	370	401
2.	अद्यतन अनुमोदित समयावधि के सदंर्भ में विलंबित परियोजनाएं	188	200	214	199
3.	कुल का प्रतिशत	53.41	53.91	57.84	49.63

(ख) से (घ) निधियों की कमी,भूमि अधिग्रहण में विलंब,ठेके पर कार्य सौंपने में देरी और उपकरणों के सप्लायरों और ठेकेदारों द्वारा की जाने वाली देरी आदि जैसी विभिन्न समस्याओं के कारण परियोजनाएं विलंबित हो जाती हैं।

(ड) परियोजनाओं के क्रियान्वयन की गति में सुधार लाने के वास्ते आम तौर पर किए जाने वाला उपाय विवरण के रूप में संलग्र हैं।

विवरण

परियोजना की वास्वविक लागत का आकलन तैयार करने और उसके क्रियान्वयन को सुचारू बनाने के वास्ते सरकार द्वारा किए जाने वाले उपाय

(1) चरण-1 में पर्याप्त तैयारी,पर्यावरणीय तथा अन्य विकासी पत्र और आभारी संरचना संबंधी आयोजना सुनिश्चित करने हेतु तथा चरण-2 में क्रियान्वयन के वास्ते किसी परियोजना को अंतिम रूपसे अनुमोदित करने से पहले परियोजना का द्वि-स्तरीय अनुमोदन।

(2) विभिन्न स्तरों पर कठिनाइयों का पता लगाने तथा उनके संबंध में उपरारात्मक कदम उठाने के लिए परियोजनाओं का नियमित अतंरालों पर समुचित प्रबोधन।

(3) परियोजना प्राधिकरणों और प्रशासनिक मंत्रालयों द्वारा प्रगति की गहरी समीक्षा।

(4) ठेका संबंधी कार्यो को शीर्घ अंतिम रूप देने,भूमि अधिग्रह तथा अन्य समस्याओं के समाधान के लिए कार्यदलों/उच्चाधिकार प्राप्त समितियों को गठन।

(5) विलंब न्यूनतम हो सके, इसके लिए संबद्व प्रशासनिक मंत्रालयों एवं परियोजना प्राधिकरणों द्वारा राज्य सरकार,उपकरणों के सप्लायरों,ठेकेदारों,परामर्शदाताओं तथा अन्य संबद्व अभिकरणों के साथ गहन अनुवर्ती कार्रवाई।

(6) अंतर-मंत्रालयीय समन्वय।

सौराष्ट्र के पिछड़े जिलों का विकास

2808.**श्री अनन्तराव देशशंकर दवे** : क्या योजना और कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सौराष्ट्र के कच्छ,जामनगर,जूनागढ़,सुरेन्द्रनगर,अमरेली,भावनगर और राजकोट जिले

सामाजिक-आर्थिक विकास की दृष्टि से पिछड़े हुए हैं;

(क) यदि हां,तो क्या सरकार ने उनके पिछड़ेपन के कारणों का पता लगावा हैं/विश्लेषण किया है;

(ख) उनके विकास को बढ़ाने के लिए कौन सी विशिष्ट योजना बनायी गयी है; और

(ग) ऐसी योजनओं को कब तक लागू किए जाने की सम्भावना हैं ?

योजना और कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री तथा विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री योगेन्द्र कुमार अलघ): (क) से (घ) किसी क्षेत्र की आयोजना एंव विकास तथा उस उद्देश्य हेतु निधियों का आवंटन प्राथमिक रूप से राज्य सरकार का उत्तरदायित्व है । योजना आयोग ने पिछड़े जिलों की घोषणा हेतु स्वयं कोई मापदण्ड निर्धारित नहीं किया है । हालांकि,केंद्र सरकार,इस संबंध में गुजरात सहित अन्य राज्य सरकारों के प्रयासों को जनजातीय उपयोजना,सूखा प्रवण क्षेत्र कार्यक्रम,रोजगार आवश्वासन स्कीम,सीमा क्षेत्र विकास कार्यक्रम आदि के माध्यम से पूरा कर रही है ।

Annual Plans of Uttar Pradesh

2809. SHRI RAM GOPAL YADAV: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) the financial size of Annual Plans of Uttar Pradesh, as approved by the Planning Commission during the last six years; and

(b) the performance in terms of financial targets, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) and (b) The financial size of Annual Plans of Uttar Pradesh, as approved by the Planning Commission during the last 6 years and the performance in terms of financial expenditure, year-wise are as follows:

(Rs. crores)

Annual Plan	At current prices	
	Outlay	Expenditure
1992-93	3853.00	3715.20
1993-94	4050.00	3249.58
1994-95	4563.00	3870.31
1995-96	5496.625	4027.40*
1996-97	6549.03	5481.54+
1997-98	7080.00	

*Anticipated + Estimated

Total employment by the turn of the century in Gujarat

2810. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any steps to achieve near full employment in Gujarat by the turn of the century;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government so far, for generating employment for all in the state?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) to (c) The approach to the Ninth Plan envisages priority to productive employment which will be generated in the growth process itself by concentrating on sectors, sub-sectors and technologies which are labour intensive, in regions characterised by higher rates of unemployment and underemployment. In this context, the Ninth Plan will implement a National Employment Assurance Scheme. The benefit of all the employemnt generating schemes will automatically flow to all the States including Gujarat. The major poverty alleviation programmes which

provide employment in the rural areas are Integrated Rural Development Programme, Jawahar Rozgar Yojana and Employment Assurance Scheme. In the urban development sector, two Urban Poverty Eradication Schemes are in operation, namely, Nehru Rozgar Yojana and Prime Minister's Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme which also seek to provide employment. Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana is being implemented as Central Plan Scheme to provide employment opportunities to educated unemployed youths in both rural and urban areas.

Restructuring the MPLADS

2811. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have restructured the Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme;

(b) if so, the details of changes carries out and the present status of the Scheme;

(c) the quantity of funds allocated for the current year and the funds released so far; and

(d) the reasons for dcaly in release of funds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) ant (b) Revised guidelines for MPLAD Scheme were issued on 15.2.1977, superseding the previous guidelines. A copy of the revised guidelines has been issued to"all the Hon'ble Members of Parliament.

(c) The Budget Provision for the Scheme in the current year is Rs. 790.00 crores out of which Rs. 777.50 crores have, been released so far.

(d) There was no significant avoidable delay in release of funds.

उत्तर प्रदेश में गरीबी रेखा के नीचे रह रहे लोग

2812.**श्री मोहम्मद आज़म खान**: क्या योजना और कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) उत्तर प्रदेश के उन जिलों की संख्या कितनी हैं जहां गरीबी रेखा से नीचे चह रहे लोगों की सूची तैयार कर ली गयी है और उन विभागों तथा दूसरे स्रातों के क्या नाम हैं जिनसे यह सूची तैयार करायी गयी हैं;

(ख) क्या इस संबंध में नियमों का उल्लंघन करने वाले जिला अधिकारियों की सूची तैयार की गयी हैं; और

(ग) यदि हां,तो उनके विरूद्व क्या कार्रवाई की गयी है,यदि नहीं,तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ?

योजना और कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री तथा विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री योगेन्द्र कुमार भगतराम अलघ): (क) से (ग) उत्तर प्रदेश में नौंवी पंचवर्षीय योजना के लिए गरीबी रेखा से नीचे रहने वाले परिवारों की पहचान के लिए सर्वेक्षण शीघ्र शुरू होने वाला है । तैयारी का काम जिसमें फील्ड स्टाफ का प्रशिक्षण शामिल है,प्रगति पर है तथा यह अप्रैल,1997 तक पूरा हो जाएगा । इसके बाद राज्य के प्रत्येक जिले में सर्वेक्षण कराया जाएगा ।

Setting up of power projects by Enron

2813. SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:
SHRI AMAR SINGH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Enron has submitted a proposal for creating another 10,000 MW of power capacity in various States of the country;

(b) if so, the details of the power

plants proposed to be set up in each State/Union Territory, indicating their cost and generation capacity; and

(c) the Government's response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The proposal is preliminary and does not give sufficient details. The proposed gas fired power plants are to be set up in different locations, which have not been indicated. The Government generally welcomes proposals for investment in the power sector.

Additional Electricity Supply to Haryana

2814. SHRI LACHHMAN SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for supply of additional electricity to Haryana to meet the current shortage:

(b) whether Government propose to sanction a new power plant for Haryana; if so, by when;

(c) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to privatise electricity supply to consumers in the State; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) It has been decided to divert 40 MW of power from the firm share of Uttar Pradesh in Fcroz Gandhi. UnchalTar Thermal Power Station to improve the current shortage of power in Haryana.

(c) Yes. Sir. A gas based power station in NTPC at Faridabad has been tcchno-cconomically cleared by Central Electricity Authority and approved by PIB.

(c) and (d) After discussions with the State Government officials and at Chief Ministers' level, Government has recently adopted Common Minimum National Action Plan for Power which includes Private Sector participation in distribution of electricity. The process of private participation shall initially be in one or two viable geographical areas covering both urban and rural areas in a State. The Government of Haryana has announced a new Power Sector Policy on the line of the policy adopted by the Government of Orissa, which includes privatisation of distribution system also. The first area to be privatised in Haryana will be East Zone (Districts of Panipat, Karnal & Sonepat).

Power Projects in Bihar

2815. SHRI GYAN RANJAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals from Bihar Government for setting up power projects in public and private sector, cleared by the Central Government as on date;

(b) the expenditure incurred on each project;

(c) the number of such proposals pending for clearance in each sector; and

(d) by when the pending proposals are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) As on date, there are 5 sanctioned ongoing schemes under execution in State Sector in Bihar. These are Eastern Gandak Canal Unit 3 (5 MW), North Koel HE Project (24 MW), Chaudil HE Project (8 MW), Tenughat TPS St-II (630 MW) and Muzaffarpur TPS Extension (500 MW).

(b) Expenditure incurred on Eastern Gandak Canal, North Koel and Chandil projects upto March, 1996 has been Rs. 60.14 corres (approx), Rs. 13.40 crores and Rs. 33.24 crores respectively. Tenughat II and Muzaffarpur Extension projects are awaiting implementation for want of tying up of funds. As per the information received from Government of Bihar, no expenditure except Rs. 51 lakhs for the consulting services for the

Muzaffarpur Extension have been spent on these two thermal projects.

(c) No proposals from Government of Bihar are pending for clearance in the Central Electricity Authority.

(d) Does not arise.

Fast Track Power Porject at Vizag

2816. DR. MOHAN BABU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the fast track power project being set up at Vizag with Japanese colloboration has been held up; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) and (b) The Visakhapatnam Thermal Power Project (1040 MW), being set up by M£. Hinduja National Power Corporation Ltd., has obtained the techno-economic clearance of the Central Electricity Authority. The Power Purchase Agreement and the Coal Supply and Transportation Agreement for the project have yet to be finalised.

Techno-Economic Clearance of IPPs by CEA

2817. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are planning to do away with the Techno-economic clearance by CEA, in case of Independent Power Producers;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and in what manner Government propose to ensure the reasonableness of project cost, standardisation of equipment, norms of auxiliary consumption, etc.; and

(c) how Government propose to check formation of cartels among IPPs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) and (b) All the power projects of private generating companies costing more than Rs. 100 crores (in case of projects awarded through Memorandum of Understanding (MOUyLetter of Intent (LOI), etc. route) and costing more than Rs. 1,000 crores (in case of projects awarded through competitive bidding) have to obtain techno-economic clearance of the Central Electricity Authority.

(c) To ensure that State Electricity Boards-Electricity Utilities would obtain competitive prices from the Independent Power Producers (IPPs), Government of India have made competitive bidding mandatory for awarding power projects to private sector after 18.2.1995.

Power Supply position in States

2818. SHRI JOY NADUKKARA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the power deficit^urplus position of each State;

(b) whether there is any scheme for a centrally-operated distribution system, involving all the States; if so, by when it would be completed;

(c) what schemes are there to avoid Transmission and Distribution losses; and

(d) what is the present Transmission and Distribution loss, both at the National and State levels?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) During the period April-February, 97 State-wise power supply position is given in Statement (See below). '

(b) and (c) The responsibility for distribution of electricity vests with the State Electricity Boatd&EIectricity Deptts. In order to reduce the transmission and distribution losses, the Central Electricity Authority had issued

guidelines which, intcralia, provide for the following:

— Upgradation of operating voltages;

— reduction of length of LT lines;

— location of transformers near load centres;

— adoption of low capacity transformers at consumers premises;

— installation of shunt capacitors;

— improvement in construction and operation techniques; and

— systematic and methodological approach for planning and design of distribution system on the long term basis.

The Central Electricity Authority has also issued guidelines for conducting energy audit which lays down procedure for conducting energy audit/studies. These also provide -for action plan for formulation and implementation of audit schemes and analysis of results to segregate technical and commercial losses.

Necessary amendments have also been enacted to The Indian Electricity Act, 1910 to make the theft of electricity a cognisable offence.

In the Common Minimum National Action Plan for Power issued in December, 1996, with the State Governments, the following measures have been suggested for reduction of transmission and distribution losses:

(i) Compulsory metering at substations on all major feeders.

(ii) Compulsory metering of all new electricity connection. Also connections to agricultural sector exceeding 10 HP should be completed within a period of two years.

(iiii) All electric supplies to be metered by 2202 A.D.

(iv) Compulsory annual energy audit of large consumers i.e. 100 KVA would be ensured.

(v) Time of the day metering would be introduced for big power consumers for better load management.

A legal framework has now been established and transmission has been recognised as a distinct acitivity. This will facilitate greater investment in transmission projects by public, private and joint sectors. This will help in reducing T&D losses.

(d) Statewise and all India T&D losses during 1994-95 is given in Statement-II.

Statement I

Actual Power Supply Position (All figures in MU net)

Region/ State/ System	April , 96 — February, 97			
	Requirement	Availability	Shortage	%
NORTHERN REGION,				
Chandigarh	821	820	1	0.1
Delhi	13031	12673	357	2.7
Haryana	12820	12066	754	5.9
HP.	2116	2994	22	1
J&K	4373	3561	812	18.6
Punjab	20110	19763	347	1.7
Rajasthan	18015	16706	1309	7.3
U.P.	37630	32406	5224	13.9
N.R.	108915	100089	8826	8.1

Region/ State/ System	Apri , 96 — Febru ary, 97 Requirement	Availability	Shortage	%
WESTERN REGION				
Gujarat	34660	31883	2777	8.0
M.P.	29685	26330	3355	11.3
Maharashtra	54505	51572	2933	5.4
Goa	1161	1161	0	0
W.R.	120011	110946	9065	7.6
SOUTHERN REGION				
A.P.	3S340	28290	8050	22.2
Karnataka	22480	16494	5986	26.6
Kerala	10385	8002	2383	22.9
Tamilnadu	32730	28177	4553	13.9
:S.R.	101935	80963	20972	20.6
EASTERN REGION				
Bihar	8795	6345	2450	27.9
D.V.C.	7625	7379	246	3.2
Orissa	9650	9342	308	3.2
West Bengal	14000	13585	415	3.0
E.R.	40070	36651	3419	8.5
NORTH-EASTERN REGION				
Arunachal Pradesh	149.4	75.7	72.7	48.7
Assam	2757.2	2-90.4	206.8	9.7
Manipur	372.4	339.1	33.3	8.9
Meghalaya	374. V	374.9	0.0	0
Mizoram	169.5	141.7	27.8	16.4
Nagaland	167.8	143.8	24.0	14.3
Tripura	439.8	337.4	102.4	23.3
N.E.R.	4431.0	3904.0	527	11.9
ALL INDIA	375362	332553	42809	11.4

Statement II

State-wise and All India T & D Losses during 1994-95

Region	State Elecy. Boards Elecy. Deptt.	1994-95 (Quantum) (MU)	%
NORTHERN REGION	Haryana	3420.13	30.80
	Himachal Pradesh	474.00	18.21
	Jammu & Kashmir	1593.17	48.74
	Pujab	3287.04	16.70
	Rajasthan	3960.75	24.78
	Uttar Pradesh	7169.24	21.69
	Chandigarh	201.70	28.44
	D.E.S.U.	4161.50	34.55

Region	State Elecy. Board/ Elecy. Deptt.	1994-95 (Quantum) (MU)	%
WESTERN REGION	Gujarat	5389.54	20.02
	Madhya Pradesh	5062.25	19.61
	Maharashtra	7360.93	16.33
	D & N Haveli	30.23	11.35
	Goa	277.08	26.87
	Daman & Diu	33.15	16.30
SOUTHERN REGION	Andhra Pradesh	-5120.81	17.95
	Karnataka	3830.60	19.41
	Kerala	1784.45	20.05
	Tamil Nadu	4766.19	17.11
	Lakshadweep Is	2.41	17.84
	Pondicherry	146.42	15.00
EASTERN REGION	Bihar	1623.45	19.76
	Orissa	2028.22	23.03
	Sikkim	17.73	21.22
	West Bengal	2204.05	21.51
	A & N Island	16.17	22.38
NORTH EASTERN	Assam	546.54	24.18
REGION	Manipur	72.39	25.30
	Meghalaya	85.90	18.47
	Nagaland	43.73	36.12
	Tripura	93.07	31.96
	Arunachal Pradesh	51.18	45.30
	Mizoram	36.46	29.76
All India (Utilities)		69568.56	21.13

Penalty on Andhra Pradesh for not Conforming to Performance Parameters

2819. DR. D. VENKATESHWAR RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry of Power has opposed the proposal of the Ministry of Finance, imposing penalty clause on Andhra Pradesh in case of not-conforming to performance parameters; and

(b) whether it was one of the conditions imposed on the State for issuing counter guarantee to the 216 MW GVK sponsored power project in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) and (b) On the issue of obtaining counter-guarantee of Government of India for the 216 MW Jegurupada power plant of M/s. GVK Industries, Government of Andhra Pradesh had made a request seeking exemption from fulfilment of certain eligibilty conditions prescribed in the general parameters for Government of India counter-guarantee for a period of two years coinciding with the commencement operation of the- project. The State Government had also requested to be exempted from payment of additional guarantee fees prescribed in the general parameters for non-fulfilment of these conditions. The Government have approved both these proposals of the Government of Andhra Pradesh.

Doing away with the Thermal Power Projects

2820. SHRI ONWARD L. NONGTDU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to adopt a long term policy to do away with the Thermal Power Projects in the country; and

(b) if so, what are the alternative sources of energy proposed to be tapped?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Demand of Gujarat for funds under EAS

2821. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the demand of Gujarat for funds under Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS) for manual work during the lean agricultural seasons in rural areas of the State during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether the demand of the State was fully met;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the remedial measures proposed to be taken by Government to meet the demand of the State?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU): (a) Though Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS) is a demand driven scheme, yet first instalment of EAS during 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96 was released to all the States on ad-hoc basis. The funds released to Gujarat for the last three years are as follows:—

(Rs. in lakhs)

Year	Central funds released
1993-94	485.00
1994-95	3580.00
1995-96	6970.00

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) Doe not arise.

मधुबनी,बिहार में एक स्वैच्छिक संगठन द्वारा कपार्ट की धनराशि का दुरूपयोग

2822. **श्री राम देव भंडारी**: क्या ग्रामीण क्षेत्र और रोजगार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) बिहार के मधुबनी जिले में सामाजिक शैक्षणिक विकास केन्द्र पथराही,झंझारपुर(आर.एस.) के कपार्ट द्वारा कितनी धनराशि उपलब्ध कराई गई हैं;

(ख) उक्त संगठन के विरूद्व धन का दुरूपयोग करने के लिये किस-किस प्रकार की जांच कराई गई है;

(ग) क्या दो सदस्यीय जांच समिति ने धनराशि के दुरूपयोग और बड़े पैमाने पर अनियमितताओं के बारे में फरवरी में प्रतिवेदन दिया था;

(घ) यदि हां,तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या हैं;

(ड) उपरोक्त संगठन को काली सूची में न डालने,धनराशि देना बन्द न करने और उनसे धनराशि वापस न कराने और इसके विरूद्व कोई प्रथम सूचना रिपोर्ट दर्ज न कराए जाने के क्या कारण है; और

(च) क्या सरकार ऐसी कार्यवाही करने का विचार रखती हैं ?

ग्रामीण क्षेत्र और रोजगार मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री(श्री चन्द्रदेव प्रसाद वर्मा): (क) कपार्ट द्वारा बिहार के मधुबनी जिले में सामाजिक शैक्षणिक विकास केन्द्री पथराही,झंझारपुर को 91.18 लाख रूपए दिए गये हैं।

(ख) से (घ) एक शिकायत के आधार पर तीन परियोजना मूल्यांकनकर्त्ताओं की एक दल भेज कर कपार्ट ने शुरू में सामाजिक शैक्षणिक विकास केन्द्र की कार्य प्रणाली की जांच करवाई थीं । इस दल के निष्कर्षो के आधार पर इस संगठन द्वारा रोहतास एंव पलामू जिले में पेयजल परियोजनाओं के निष्पादन के संबंध में दो परियोजा मूल्यांकनकर्त्ताओं के एक संयुक्त दल द्वारा विस्तृत जांच की गई है । कपार्ट को जनवरी/फरवरी 97 में प्राप्त दो सदस्यों के दल की रिपोर्ट में इस संगठन द्वारा इन परियोजनाओं के क्रियान्वयन में अनुपयुक्त निष्पादन,जागरूकता एंव प्रशिक्षण कार्यक्रम नहीं चलाना,घटिया किस्म के हार्डवेयर का प्रयोग करना,गलत रिपोर्ट देना आदि जैसी कुछ एक कमियों/ खामियों के बारे में बताया गया है इस दल ने यह भी सिफारिश की कि इस संगठन से 9.74 लाख रूपए की वसूली की जाए।

(ड़) और (च) कपार्ट ने इस संगठन को आगे धन देना बन्द कर दिया है । कपार्ट द्वारा दो सदस्यीय दल की रिपोर्ट की जांच भी की जा रही है,जिससे अगली कार्रवाही का निर्धारण किया जा सके।

अल्मोड़ा जिले में भिकियासैण तहसील को बसोट के साथ जोड़ने के लिए सड़क मार्ग

2823. **श्री राजनाथ सिंह**: क्या ग्रामीण और रोजगार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार ने उत्तर प्रदेश के अल्मोड़ा जिले में भिकियासैण तहसील मुख्यालय को विकास केन्द्र बसोट के साथ जोड़ने के लिए मोटर सड़क मार्ग के निर्माण संबंधी प्रस्ताव को मंजूरी दे दी हैं;

(ख) यदि हां,तो कब और किस योजना के अधीन मंजूरी दी गई तथा इसकी अनुमानित लागत कितनी है और यह कार्य कब तक पूरा हो जाएगा;

(ग) यदि उपरोक्त भाग(क) का उत्तर " नहीं" हो,तो सरकार उपरोक्त प्रस्ताव को कब तक मंजूरी दे देगी; और

(घ) यदि नहीं,तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ?

ग्रामीण क्षेत्र और रोजगार मंत्री (**श्री किंजरापू येरत्रायडु**): (क) से (घ) सूचना एकत्र की जा रही हैं और सभा पटल पर रख दी जाएगी।

सन् 2000 तक सभी को पेय जल

2824. **श्री गोविन्दराम मिरी**: क्या ग्रामीण और रोजगार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार ने सन् 2000 ईस्वी तक सभी ग्रामीण लोगों को पेयल की आपूर्ति सुनिश्चि करने की दृष्टि से कोई ग्रामीण जल प्रदाय योजना बनाई हैं; और

(ख) यदि हां,तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या हैं?

ग्रामीण क्षेत्र और रोजगार मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (**श्री चन्द्रदेव प्रसाद वर्मा**): (क) और (ख) सभी राज्य सरकारों और संघ राज्य क्षेत्रों से अनुरोध किया गया है कि वे विशेष कार्य योजना बनाएं और कार्यान्वित करें ताकि 2000 ईस्वी तक ग्रामीण लोगों को पेयजल की आपूर्ति सुनिश्चित की जा सके।

Eradication of Poverty in Rural Areas

2825. SHRI LACHMAN SINGH: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the assessment of government regarding eradication of poverty in rural areas of the country during 1993-94 and 1996-97, State-wise;

(b) the basis of arriving at such conclusions; and

(c) the steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU): (a) to (c) The problem of rural poverty has been on the top of the development agenda of the Government and accordingly Government has been taking several steps for eradication of poverty.

The Planning Commission estimates the incidence of poverty in rural and urban areas of different States in the country utilising the quinquennial National Sample Survey (NSS) data on consumer expenditure. The latest estimates of poverty is available for the year 1993-94 based on the NSS consumer expenditure data of 50th Round. The State-wise assessment of poverty in the rural areas for 1993-94 following the recently adopted official methodology which is based on the Report of the Expert Group is given in the Statement. *(Sec* below).

The existing poverty eradication programmes for self employment and wage employment would continue in the Ninth Five year Plan. These programmes would be redesigned to make them more effective as instruments of poverty eradication.

Statement

Number of Percentage of Population below Poverty Line by States-1993-94 (Modified Expert Group)

s. No	State	Rural	
		No. of Persons (Lakhs)	%age Persons
1.	Andhra Pradesh	79.49	15.92
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	3.62	45.01
3	Assam	94.33	45.01
4.	Bihar	450.86	58.21
5.	Goa	3.38	5.34
6.	Gujarat	62.16	22.18
7	Haryana	36.56	28.02
8.	Himachal Pradesh	15.40	30.34
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	19.05	30.34
10.	Karnataka	95.99	29.88
11.	Kerala	55.95	25.76
12.	Madhya Pradesh	215.19	40.64
13.	Maharashtra	193.33	37.93
14.	Manipur	6.33	45.01
15.	Meghalaya	7.09	45.01
16.	Mizoram	1.54	45.01
17.	Nagaland	4.85	45.01
18.	Orissa	140.90	49.72
19.	Punjab	17.76	11.95
20.	Rajasthan	94.68	26.46
21.	Sikkim	1.81	45.01
22.	Tamil Nadu	121.70	32.48
23	Tripura	11.41	43.01
24.	Uttar Pradesh	496.17	42.28
25.	West Bengal	209.90	40.80
26.	Andaman & Nicobar	0.73	32.48
27.	Chandigarh	0.07	11.35
28.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.72	51.95
29.	Daman & Din	0.03	5.34
30.	Delhi	0.13	1.90
31.	Lakshadweep	0.08	25.7o
32.	Pondicherry	0.93	32.48
	ALL INDIA	2440.31	37.27

1. Poverty Ratio, of Assam is used for Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Manipur, Nagaland and Tripura.
2. Poverty Ratio of Tamil Nadu is used for Pondicherry and A & N Island.
3. Poverty Ratio of Kerala is used for Lakshadweep.
4. Poverty Ratio of Goa is used for Daman & Diu.
5. Urban Poverty Ratio of Punjab used for both rural and urban poverty of Chandigarh.
6. Poverty Line of Maharashtra and expenditure distribution of goa is used to estimate poverty ratio of Goa.
7. Poverty Line of Maharashtra and expenditure distribution of Dadra & Nagar Haveli is used to estimate poverty ratio of Dadra & Nagar Haveli.
8. Poverty Ratio of Himachal Pradesh is used for Jammu & Kashmir for 1993-94.

JRY and EAS in Garhwal Area of Uttar Pradesh

2826. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM:
SHRI MUKESH R. PATEL:
SHRI RAJNATH SINGH 'SURYA'

Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of targets fixed and those achieved under Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) and Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS) in Garhwal area of U.P. during the last three years, district-wise and year-wise;

(b) whether Government are aware of the ongoing Chetna and plan in Tehri Garhwal against non-implementation of the above scheme; and

(c) if so, Government's reaction thereto and the action taken to achieve the targets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA):

from the Government of Uttar Pradesh and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Training of youths under TRYS.EM

2827. SHRI ' NAGENDRA NATH OJHA: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 694 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 27th February, 1997 and state the number of youths trained under TRYSEM during the last three years and those who were given assistance under IRDP?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU): Under TRYSEM, training is imparted to rural youths living below the poverty line to upgrade their technical/vocational skills to enable them to take up self/wage employment. This Ministry monitors the number of trained youth who are self/ wage employed after training. However, the 'Quick Evaluation' on TRYSEM reveals that about 54% trainees did not apply for loan under IRDP. Of the remaining beneficiaries, 50% were assisted under IRDP. A statement indicating the number of youth trained and self/wage employed during the three years is at statement.

Statement

Performance under TRYSEM

	Total Youth trained	Trained Youth Employed		
		Self	Wage	Total
1993-94 97)	303821	107919	43004	150923
1994-95	281874	86466	44965	131431
1995-96	301651	97757	48450	146207
1996-97 (upto Feb.	205474	56261	28577	84838

Distribution of Surplus land among the Landless

2828. SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE: SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR: SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to refer to answers to Unstarred Questions 697 and 1452 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 20th February and 6th March 1997, respectively, and state the progress made in enforcement of land reforms in each State and Union Territory, indicating the surplus land identified, acquired and distributed amongst the landless, and the extent of land locked-up in litigatioa?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RUR&L AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA): The information solicited is given as under:-

S.N	State/UTs.	Area			Land locked up in Litigation	
		Declared surplus	Taken Possession	Distribute to indv. benef.	Area in courts	No. of cases in courts
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	795665	634262	594352	150626	3405
2.	Assam	612380	575837	479878	38461	112
3.	Bihar	488257	342134	303217	169004	1926
4.	Gujarat	231172	158953	133999	155926	1562
5.	Haryana	93511	85348	87259	5369	319
6.	Himachal Pradesh	282581	281652	3340	929	13
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	455575	450000	450000	0	0
8.	Karnataka	267758	155026	11.7147	138124	5871
9.	Kerala	137833	94856	64283	28015	1683
10.	Madhya Pradesh	355828	299218	185313	90646	1343
11.	Maharashtra	729548	663445	554870	34861	673
12.	Manipur	1830	1685	1682	54	NR
13.	Orissa	176459	165618	154298'	11221	1088
14.	Punjab	222594	105146	103487	25120	1098
15.	Rajasthan	601922	558179	452174	74739	389
16.	Tamil Nadu	193657	171114	162369	29609	8
17.	Tripura	1995	1944	1599	59	NR
18.	Uttar Pradesh	561377	527036	390501	124007	NR
19.	West Bengal	1170965	1202009	965293	175786	5
20.	D & N Haveli	9406	9305	6851	149	13
21.	Delhi	1132	394	394	183	50
22.	Pondicherry	2326	1160	1022	1166	
	Total:	7493771	6484321	5213328	1245054	19558

World Bank Assistance for Development of Rural Areas in Maharashtra

2829. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH 'SURYA':
SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM:
SHRf MUKESH R. PATEL:

Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of schemes in operation in Maharashtra for development of rural areas;

(b) whether a review of such schemes was undertaken in the recent past; if so, the outcome thereof; and

(c) whether World Bank's assistance has been sought for such schemes; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA): (a) The major schemes for development of rural areas being implemented in the country including the State of Maharashtra are Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY), Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS), Million Wells Scheme (MWS), Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY), Training for Rural Youth for Salf Employment (TRYSEM), rural Water Supply (RWS), Rural

Sanitation Programme (RSP), Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP).

(b) Yes, Sir. Implementation of various programmes/schemes has been reviewed recently with Project Directors and with State Rural Development Secretaries in meetings held in Delhi. Appropriate remedial action has been taken/is being taken.

(c) A project proposal pre-feasibility report for the Integrated Rural Water Supply and Environmental Sanitation project for 11 districts of Maharashtra has been forwarded to the World Bank for possible financing.

Self Employment Schemes in North Eastern States

2830. SHRI W. ANGOU SINGH: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount sanctioned under the Employment Assurance Scheme to the North-Eastern States during 1995-96 and 1996-97;

(b) whether these funds are meant for the trained unemployed youths only;

(c) the details of schemes for selt-employment with amount of money sanctioned, to the North-Eastern States, State-wise;

(d) what are the details of the beneficiaries; and

(e) whether employment schemes are properly monitored?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN TOE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA): (a) to (d) The amount sanctioned/ released and persons/families benefited under Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS), Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) and Training of Rural Youth for Self-Employment (TRYSEM) during 1995-96 and 1996-97 in respect of North Eastern States are given in Statement I & II *(See* below).

(e) All employment programmes implemented by the Central Government are being monitored inter-alia through periodical progress reports, release-procedures, intensive inspections, review meeting of the senior officers of the Central and State Government.

Statement-I

Amount sanctioned released to North Eastern states during 1995-96 & 1996-97 under EAS., IRDP and TRYSEM

State	Amount sanctioned/released (Rs. in crores)					
	E.A.S. 1995-96	1996-97	I.R.D.P 1995-96	1996-97	T.R.Y.S.E.M. 1995-96	1996-97
1. Arunachal Pr.	19.57	15.01	1.72	2.07	0.00	0.09
2. Assam	98.23	55.40	15.38	9.11	0.82	0.53
3. Manipur	13.37	9X0	1.00	2.09	0.00	0.00
4. Meghalaya	5.00	4.90	2.25	1.19	0.75	0.05
5. Mizoram	20.24	8.00	1.42	1.01	0.16	0.05
6. Nagaland	14.70	19.96	3.11	1.11	0.00	0.07
7. Tripura	20.86	21.60	3.88	3.55	0.15	0.13

Statement-II *Number of beneficiaries/families benefited under EAS, IRDP and TRYSEM 1995-96 and 1996-97*

State	E.A.S. (Lakh mandays generated)		I.R.D.P. (Lakh families benefited)		TRYSE No. of Youth trained.	
	1995-96	1996-97	1995-96	1996-97	1995-96	1996-97
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1 Arunachal Pr.	50.67	18.40	0.14	0.03	1277	410
2 Assam	181.82	48.18	0.59	0.15	10317	630
3 Manipur	31.21	9.96	0.06	0.04	117	220
4 Meghalaya	8.30	2.63	0.05	0.04	292	220
5 Mizoram	40.91	17.18	0.05	0.01	692	NR
6 Nagaland	34.46	30.74	0.03	0.03	227	486
7 Tripura	43.21	42.51	0.05	0.03	3838	1498

NR—Not reported.

Extension of Intensive employment scheme to all the States/UTs

2831. DR. RANBIR SINGH:
SHRI RAM NATH KOVIND:

Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether provisions of an Intensive Employment Scheme have since been extended to all the States and Union Territories;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether large number of people have been benefited with this scheme;

(d) if so, the details thereof, district-wise and if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether Government propose to lake steps .for more affective implementation of this Scheme; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA): (a) Yes, Sir. Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS) has been extended to all the States and Union Territories except Union Territories of Delhi and Chandigarh.

(b) The total number of blocks covered under EAS in various States and Union Territories may please be seen at statement-I *(see* below).

(c) and (d) Psopie who desire wage employment can get themselves registered under EAS. Data relating to number of people benefitted under the scheme is not maintained. However, number of persons registered under EAS State-wise and number of mandays generated may please be seen at Statement-II. *(see* below).

(e) Yes, Sir. State Governments have been requested from time to time to effectively monitor and implement the scheme.

(f) State Governments have been requested to constitute Vigilance Committees and EAS Committees to effectively monitor and review the implementation of the scheme. EAS will be extended to all the remaining blocks of the country during 1997-98.

Statement-I

Number of blocks covered under EAS in Slale/U. Ts.

SI. N	Stats/UT	Total No. of Blocks	No. of Blocks covered under EAS
1.	Andhra Pradesh	330	280
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	56	56
3.	Assam	218	218
4.	Bihar	727	579
5.	Goa	11	5
6.	Gujarat	218	181
7.	Haryana	110	77
8.	Himachal Pradesh	69	44
9.	Jammu & Kashmir'	119	119
10	Karnataka	175	162
11	Kerala	152	81
12	Madhya Pradesh	459	394
13	Maharashtra	299	247
14	Manipur	31	31
15	Meghalaya	32	32
16	Mizoram	20	20
17	Nagaland	52	52
18	Orissa	314	290
19	Punjab	136	49
20	Rajasthan	237	204
21	Sikkim	4	4
22	Tamil Nadu	385	282
23	Tripura	27	27
24	Uttar Pradesh	902	610
25	West Bengal	340	270
26	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	5	3
27	Chandigarh	1	0
28	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	1	1
29	Daman & Diu	2	1
30	Delhi	5	0
31	Lakshadweep	9	7
32	Pondicherry	6	3
	Total:	5452	4329

Statement-II

Number of Persons under EAS mandays generated

SI. N	Name of the States/UT	No. of person regis-tered since beginning	Manday gener-ated (lakh manday
1.	Andhra Pradesh	67200	164.08
2.	Arunacha Pradesh	12701	16.17
3.	Assam	29586	48.18
4.	Bihar	39969	211.84
5.	Goa	NR	NR
6.	Gujarat	58400	98.74
7.	Haryana	868505	17.17
8.	Himachal Pradesh	33992	6.35
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	919800	49.57
10.	Karnataka	2257900	173.83
11.	Kerala	224000	16.60
12.	Madhya Pradesh	2285959	189.57
13.	Maharashtra	550329	168.51
14.	Manipur	100650	9.96
15.	Meghalaya	42285	2.63
16.	Mizoram	106573	17.18
17.	Nagaland	417168	0.11
18.	Orissa	2724000	276.15
19.	Punjab	NR	NR
20.	Rajasthan	1063675	144.47
21.	Sikkim	43300	2.43
22.	Tamil Nadu	556600	119.72
23.	Tripura	334700	41.31
24.	Uttar Pradesh	1232000	192.80
25.	West Bengal	4841000	116.06
26.	A&N Island	888	0.24
27.	D & N Haveli	1679	0.38
28.	Daman & Diu	181	0.00
29.	Lakshadweep	2971	1.30
30.	Pondicherry	NR	NR
	All India	23684020	2085.35

NR -Not Reported

Inclusion of Janmabhoomi Programme in the Panchayat Raj Act

2832. DR. MOHAN BANU: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to include Janmabhoomi Programme in the Panchayati Raj Act, on the pattern of the one recently concluded in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to give incentives to villages which implement the Janmabhoomi Programme successfully?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU): (a) The Government do not propose to include the 'Janmabhoomi Programme^ in the Constitution (73rd Amendment) Act, 1992 on Panchayati Raj.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

NHRC Recommendations on DAM Project

2833. PROF. RAM KAPSE:
SHRI RAJ NATH SINGH:

Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has asked the Central and the State Governments to amend their rules, regulations and practices relating to acquisition of land for economic development of Projects;

(b) whether the Commission has also made recommendations for rehabilitation of the dam affect persons;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken by Government so far on these recommedations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA): (a) to (d) The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) in its report (vide para 20) prepared in connection with the complaint received from national alliance of people's movement relating to the condition of oustees of bargi dam in Madhya Pradesh, urged upon the Central Government to re-examine and appropriately amend their laws, regulations and practices in order to ensure that, when it comes to the acquisition of land for purposes related to national economic development, the provisions of the constitution as expounded by the Supreme Court and as contained in international instruments to which India is a party, notably ILO Convention 107, are fully respected in the said report the Commission indicated the responsibility of the State to protect the interest of the dam affected persons. The Union Government is actively considering for formulation of a national policy and guidelines for rehabilitation and resettlement of families affected on account of compulsory acquisition of land.

New Rural Employment Programme During 1997-98

2834. SHRI PARAG CHALIHA: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to include some new rural employment programme under IRDP during the current financial year i.e. 1997-98; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA): (a) and (b) IRDP is an ongoing-'Plan' programme in implementation since 1980. A new centrally sponsored scheme called the Ganga Kalyan Yojana (GKY) has been launched with effect from 1.2.1997. For the current year, the Scheme will, however be implemented as a sub-scheme of the IRDP although, with effect from theTiext financial year, it will be- an independent scheme with separate budgetary allocations. The objective of the scheme is to provide irrigation through exploitation of ground water (bore wells and tube wells) to individuals and groups of small and marginal farmers living below poverty line. The assistance to be provided would be a mix of subsidy by government and term credit by financial institutions. Special safeguards by way of earmarking of 50% of the total funds have been provided for the SCs/STs. The funding pattern will be 80-20 between the Central Government and the State Government.

त्रिपुरा की ग्रामीण विकास परियोजनाएं

2835. **श्री अनन्तराय देवशंकर दवे** : क्या ग्रामीण क्षेत्र और रोजगार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) त्रिपुरा सरकार द्वारा ग्रामीण विकास के लिए विगत तीन वर्षो के दौरान प्रतिवर्ष प्रस्तुत की गई परियोजनाओं का कार्यक्रमवार ब्यौरा क्या हैं;

(ख) सरकार द्वारा अनुमोदित और मंजूर की गई परियोजनाओं का जिलावार यौरा क्या है और शेष परियोजनओं को कब तक मंजूरी दिए जाने की संभावना हैं ;

(ग) क्या वर्ष 1996-97 के दौरान राज्य की विकास योजनओं को लागू करने के लिए कोई कार्य योजना बनाई गई है; और

(घ) यदि हां,तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या हैं ?

ग्रामीण क्षेत्र और रोजगार मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री चन्द्रदेव प्रसाद वर्मा): (क) और (ख) पिछले तीन वर्षो के दौरान त्रिपुरा सरकार से प्राप्त तथा केन्द्र सरकार द्वारा अनुमोदित विभिन्न जिलों के सम्बन्ध में परियोजनाओं के वर्षवार तथा कार्यक्रमवार ब्यौरे निम्न प्रकार हैं:-

	जवाहर रोजगार योजना			त्वरित ग्रामीण जल सप्लाई कार्यक्रम		
परियोजनाएं	93-94	94-95	95-96	1994	1995	1996
प्राप्त	-	3	1	2	2	-
स्वीकृत	-	1	-	-	-	-

(ग) से (घ) इस प्रकार की परियोजनाओं के लिए कोई कार्य योजना तैयार नहीं की जाती है । लेकिन कार्य को पूरा करने का कार्यक्रम तैयार किया जाता है ।

Increasing the amount for JRY in Punjab

2836. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of districts in the country, particularly in Punjab, where the programmes under Jawahar Rozgar Yojana are being implemented;

(b) the names of districts and the details of funds provided by Government in this respect, year-wise and district-wise;

(c) whether Government propose to increase the amount, in view of backwardness of the (Junius of Punjab, particularly in the border areas of the State; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA): (a) Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) is being implemented in the rural areas of all the districts in the country including Punjab except Union Territory of Delhi and Chandigarh.

(b) District-wise and year-wise details of funds provided under Jawahar Rozgar Yojana since 1994-95 as Central share are as per Statement (See below).

(c) and (d) The Central assistance is allocated to the States/Union Territories on the basis of the proportion of rural poor in the State/Union Territory of the total rural poor in the country. From the State to the districts the allocation is made on the basis of proportion of rural SCs/STs population in a district to the total SCs/STs population in the State and inverse of per capita production of agricultural workers in equal weights.

Statement

District-wise and year-wise funds provided under JRY

SI. No.	District	1994-95*	1995-96*	1996-97 (upto Feb., 1997)
1.	Fcrozepur	488.65	48.34	26.88
2.	Gurdaspur	468.45	61.36	34.58
3.	Amritsar	547.75	84.48	42.84
4.	Ludhiana	83.98	65.70	62.85
5.	Jalandhar	149.31	87.60	62.54
6.	Kapurthala	60.41	34.34	22.61
7.	Hoshiarpur	108.65	83.20	74.71
8.	Rupnagar	62.93	47.34	32.75
9.	Patiala	74.41	58.15	24.46
10.	Sangur	101.63	59.44	29.70
11.	Bathinda	456.10	79.60	43.21
12.	Faridkot	134.62	78.42	47.90
13.**	Mansa	—	—	14.36
14.**	Fatehgarh Sahib	—	—	5.78
15.**	Nawa Shahar	—	—	17.84
16.**	Moga	—	—	15.96
17.**	Muktsar	—	—	18.88
	Total	2736.89	787.97	577.85

*Including IAY
**Newly created districts.

Rural populace without toilet, sanitation and drinking water facilities

2837. SHRI MD. SALIM: Will the Minister of RURAL **AREAS** AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of ruralpopulace in the country

(b) what steps Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA): (a) The details of percentage of rural population without sanitation and drinking water facilities are given below:

	As on 1.4.1990	As on 1.4.1995
Toilet/Sanitation facilities	88.50%	85.94%
Drinking Water Supply	32.2%	17.23%

d safe drinking water in 199

(b) A Centrally sponsored Rural Sanitation Programme and Centrally

Sponsored Accelerated Rural Water 'Supply Programme and State Sector Minimum Needs Programme are under implementation to provide Sanitation and Drinking Water facilities in the rural areas.

Assistance to rural artisans in Orissa

2838. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the specific scheme under which the rural artisans of Orissa are being assisted by the Centre; and

(b) the number and details of rural artisans benefited under the Scheme in the State during the Eighth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Rural Areas & Employment is implementing the Scheme of Supply of Improved Tool Kits to the Rural Artisans in the entire country including the State of Orissa. Under the scheme, rural artisans from different crafts except weavers, tailors, needle-workers and beedi-wofkers living below the poverty line are being assisted.

23,823 numbers of rural artisans have been benefited so far in the State of Orissa under the Scheme during Vlllth Five Year Plan.

National Social Assistance Programme in Andhra Pradesh

2839. DR. D. VENKATESHWAR RAO: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Social Assistance Programme for the benefit of rural women and old people has been of the successful programmes so far in Andhra Pradesh, in comparison to other State;

(b) if so, the total allocation made to Andhra Pradesh during 1995-96 and the amount utilized;

(c) the allocation made during 1996-97 and the amount released so far; and

(d) to what extent the State Government has implemented the Scheme and utilized the funds for Social Assistance Programme, and what is the total benefit derived by the rural women of Minority Communities and those who are backward?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU): (a) The National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP) alongwith its three components viz., National Old Age Pension Scheme (NO APS), National Family Benefit Scheme (NFBS) and National Maternity Benefit Scheme (NMBS), is being implemented successfully in Andhra Pradesh. Under this programme, Central Assistance is given to rural as well as urban households below the poverty line as per terms and conditions laid down in NSAP Guidelines.

(b) During 1995-96, an amount of Rs. 4675.42 lakhs was allocated to Andhra Pradesh for the three schemes of NSAP. The State utilised an amount of Rs. 3913.58 lakhs out of amount of Rs. 4675.42 lakhs released during the year.

(c) During 1996-97, an amount of Rs. 7896.11 lakhs was allocated to the State for the three schemes of NSAP. Out of this an amount of Rs. 6885.06 lakhs has been released so far.

(d) The allocation, releases, expenditure and number of beneficiaries during the year 1996-97 in respect of three schemes of NSAP are given below:—

s. No.	Name of Scheme	Allocation Rs. in lakhs)	Release's	Expenditure	No. of benefited
1.	NOAPS	4403.70	4281.00	3679.37	514946
2.	NFBS	2269.58	1538.28	984.70	15383
3.	NMBS	1222.83	1065.78	658.81	188109

Information in respect of rural women of Monitory communities and backward classes is not being maintained separately.

मध्य प्रदेश में ग्रामीण आवासों की कमी के लिए सर्वेक्षण

2840.**श्री दिलीप सिंह जूदेव**: क्या ग्रामीण क्षेत्र और रोजगार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या मध्य प्रदेश के ग्रामीण क्षेत्र में आवासों की कमी के लिए कोई सर्वेक्षण किया गया है या किये जाने का विचार हैं;

(ख) क्या पिछड़े क्षेत्रों और गरीब लोगों के क्षेत्रों के लिए अतिरिक्त आवासीय इकाई हेतु जिला-वार मांग संबंधी कोई मूल्यांकन कियाग या हैं;

(ग) यदि हां,तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है;

(घ) क्या मध्य प्रदेश सरकार राजगढ़,विदिशा,भोपाल और इन्दौर जिलों में चालू वित्तीय वर्ष के दौरान केन्द्रीय वित्तीय सहायता से आवासों का निर्माण करवाने का विचार रखती है;और

(ड) यदि नहीं,तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ?

ग्रामीण क्षेत्र और रोजगार मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री चन्द्रदेव प्रसाद वर्मा): (क) मध्य प्रदेश सरकार द्वारा तैयार की गई सूचना के अनुसार ऐसा कोई सर्वेक्षण नहीं किया गया हैं/ कराने का प्रस्ताव नहीं है।

(ख) मध्य प्रदेश सरकार द्वारा पिछड़े क्षेत्रों और गरीब लोगों के क्षेत्रों के लिए अतिरिक्त आवासीय इकाई हेतु क्षेत्रवार और जिला-वार मूल्यांकन नहीं किया गया हैं।

(ग) उपरोक्त को देखते हुए प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

(घ) जी,हां।

(ड़) उपरोक्त को देखते हुए,प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

जनजातीय भूमि के अधिग्रहण पर प्रतिबंध

2841. **श्री अजीत जोगी**:
श्री रामजीलाल:

क्या ग्रामीण क्षेत्र और रोजगार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार ने राज्य सरकारों को जनजातीय और फालतू भूमि के अधिग्रहण के लिए कानून लागू करने हेतु कोई निर्देश जारी किये हैं;

(ख) यदि हां,तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या हैं;

(ग) उन राज्यों के नाम क्या-क्या हैं जहां ऐसे कानून लागू नहीं किये गये हैं;

(घ) इन कानूनों के अंतर्गत प्रत्येक राज्यों में कुल कितनी एकड़ भूमि का अधिग्रहण किया गया है; और

(ड) सरकार द्वारा ऐसे कानूनों के लागू करने में आने वाली बाधाओं को दूर करने के लिए क्या कदम उठाये गये हैं अथवा उठाये जाने की संभावना हैं ?

ग्रामीण क्षेत्र और रोजगार मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री चन्द्रदेव प्रसाद वर्मा): (क) मंत्रालय ने इस विषय में राज्य सरकार को कोई अनुदेश जारी नहीं किए है।

(ख)से (ड़) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

Wasteland in Tamil Nadu

2842. SHRI V. RAJAN CHELL-APPA: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total area of wasteland in Tamil Nadu;

(b) the steps taken by the Government to develop wasteland in the State for cultivation and other purposes;

(c) whether any amount has been aranted to the State Government or to

the concerned agencies to develop wasteland; and

(d) whether any proposal has been received from the State Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU): (a) No precise estimate of wasteland is available. The National Remote Sensing Agency (NRSA) has done the mapping of wastelands in 241 districts in the country including ten districts of Tamil Nadu State. The total area of wasteland of these ten districts is given in the Statement *(See* below).

The total area of wasteland of all the districts of Tamil Nadu has not been reported by NRSA so far.

(b) and (c) The Department of Wastelands Development has introduced the various schemes for the development of wastelands in the country including Tamil Nadu State and amount granted to the State Government so far after creation of the Department of Wastelands Development in July, 1992, are given below scheme-wise:—

SI. No.	Name of the Scheme	Amount sanctioned (Rs. in lakhs)
1.	Integrated Wastelands Development Project Scheme.	1556.89
2.	Support to NGOs/ Voluntary Agencies (VAs).	266.03
3.	Technology Development, Extension & Training Scheme.	192.73
4.	Investment Promotional Scheme (IPS).	108.22

(d) Yes, Sir. One proposal of MGR district of Tamil Nadu State is under consideration in the Department of Wastelands Development.

Statement

Details of Wasteland Areas

SI. No.	Name of district	Area in ha.
1.	Dharmapuri	243201
2.	Kanniayakumari	21652
3.	Madurai North	209^11
4.	Arcot	235821
5.	Periyar	220071
6.	Pudukkottai	51007
7.	Ramnathapuram	66720
8.	Salem	150649
9.	South Arcot	143400
10.	Tiruchirappalli	138950
	Total	1480582

गुजरात में सफाई और पेयजल सुविधाएं

2843. **श्री चीमनभाई हरीभाई शुक्ला**: क्या ग्रामीण क्षेत्र और रोजगार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) वर्ष 1996 के दौरान गुजरात केअहमदाबाद,जामनगर,पंचमहल,भरूच,राजकोट और कच्छ जिलों में गरीबी की रेखा से नीचे रहने वाले कितने परिवारों को सफाई और पेयजल सुविधाएं उपलब्ध कराई गई; और

(ख) उक्त अवधि के दौरान उक्त जिलों में ग्रामीण सफाई कार्यक्रम के अंतर्गत कितने ग्रामीण प्राथमिक विद्यालयों में पेयजल और सफाई की सुविधाएं कराई गई ?

ग्रामीण क्षेत्र और रोजगार मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री चन्द्रदेव प्रसाद वर्मा): (क) 1996 के दौरान उपलब्ध कराई गई स्वच्छता सुविधाओं वालें

गरीबी रेखा से नीचे के परिवारों की संख्या का जिलावार ब्यौरा निम्नानुसार है:-

जिले का नाम	परिवारों की संख्या
अहमदाबाद	2737
जामनगर	800
पंचमहल	841
भड़ूच	44
राजकोट	2415
कच्छ	354

पेयजल सुविधाएं ग्रामीण परिवारों की आर्थिक स्थिति का विचार किए बिना बस्तियों को कवरेज की इकाई मानते हुए उपलब्ध कराई जाती है । इसलिए इन जिलों के लिए वर्ष 1996 सके दौरान बस्तियों की कवरेज तथा पेयजल आपूर्ति सुविधाओं वाली कुल जनसंख्या का ब्यौरा नीचे दिया जाता है :

जिलों का नाम	बस्तियों की संख्या	कवर की गई जनसंख्या
अहमदाबाद	23	34432
जामनगर	46	45595
पंचमहल	48	59678
भड़ूच	6	7625
राजकोट	32	52979
कच्छ	28	28412

(ख)इन जिलों में ग्रामीण स्वच्छता कार्यक्रम के अंतर्गत वर्ष 1996 के दौरान ग्रामीण प्राथमिक विद्यालय में पेयजल और स्वच्छता सुविधाएं उपलब्ध नहीं कराई गई हैं ।

राज्यों को राष्ट्रीय संसाधनों से अतिरिक्त जल दिया जाना

2844. **श्री गोपाल सिंह जी सोलंकी क्या ग्रामीण क्षेत्र और रोजगार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:**

(क) क्या सरकार को गुजरात और अन्य राज्यों में पेयजल की बिगड़ती स्थिति की समस्या की जानकारी है;

(ख) यदि हां,तो सरकार द्वारा इन राज्यों को राष्ट्रीय संसाधनों से अतिरिक्त जल उपलब्ध कराने के लिए क्या प्रबंध किये गए है;

(ग) वर्तमान में दिल्ली को अन्य राज्यों से कितना जल मिला रहा हैं; और

(घ) राष्ट्रीय जल संसाधनों (नदियों) से कितना अतिरिक्त जल उपलब्ध करवाये जाने का प्रस्ताव हैं ?

ग्रामीण क्षेत्र और रोजगार मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री चन्द्रदेव प्रसाद वर्मा): (क) जी हां । देश में 1.32 लाख बसावटों में से 53409 बिना पेयजल स्रोत वाली बसावटें हैं ।

(ख) राष्ट्रीय जल नीति 1987 में अपनाई गई थीं जिसमें सिंचाई तथा बहुउद्देश्यीय परियोजनाओं की आयोजना में पेयजल प्रयोजनों हेतु जल के आवंटन को उच्च प्राथमिकता दी गई हैं।

(ग) वर्तमान में दिल्ली की भाखड़ा जलाशय से 368 क्यूसेक जल तथा अपर गंगा नहर से 200 क्यूसेक रामगंगा जल प्राप्त हो रहा है । यमुना जल में इसके प्राधिकृत अंश के अतिरिक्त हरियाणा द्वारा पश्चिमी यमुना नहर से दिल्ली को अतिरिक्त यमुना जल दिया जा रहा है ।

(घ) राज्यों को नदियों से पीने के प्रयोजन हेतु उपलब्ध कराये जाने वाले अतिरिक्त जल की मात्रा का निर्धारण नहीं किया गया है ।

Extension of Lal Dora Limit of Villages

2845. SHRI TARA CHARAN MAJUMDAR: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether some proposals for extension of Lal Dora limit of villages in the country are pending with Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof, district-wise;

(c) whether Lal Dora limit has been extended in all the villages of Assam; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor, with the steps to'be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE* IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMAV

(a) to (d) The information sought shall be lais on the Table of the House as soon as the same is received from the concerned State Government.

Uniform Panchayati Raj and Nagar Palika Institutions

2846. SHRI TARA CHARAN MAJUMDAR: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have been requested to extend provisions of Article 243 of the Constitution, providing for uniform Panchayati Raj and Nagar Palika Institutions to the Scheduled Areas mentioned in Article 244 (1) and (2) enabling State Governments to held elections there according to Constitution;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have taken any decision on such requests; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU): (a) to (d) The Provisions of the Panchayat (Extension to the Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996 for extending the provisions of Part IX of the Constitution relating to Panchayats to the Scheduled Areas has come into force with effect from 24th December, 1996. The matter regarding extending Constitution (74th Amendment) Act, 1992 relating to Nagar. Palika Institutions to Scheduled Areas is under consideration of Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment.

गढ़वाल क्षेत्र के पौड़ी जिले में कोट पम्पिंग योजना

2847.**श्री मनोहर कान्त ध्यानी**: क्या ग्रामीण क्षेत्र और रोजगार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार को इस बात की जानकारी है कि जल निगम द्वारा पौड़ी जिले में एक बड़ी जल आपूर्ति योजना बनाई गयी है; यदि हां तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है और प्रत्येक योजना पर कितनी-कितनी धनराशि खर्च की गई हैं;

(ख) क्या ऐसी योजनायें अपने लक्ष्यों के अनुरूप जलापूर्ति कर रहीं है,यदि हां,तो इन योजनाओं से लाभान्वित होने वाले ग्रामों की संख्या क्या है,यदि नहीं,तो इसके क्या कारण है और सरकार उस पर क्या कार्यवाही कर रही हैं;

(ग) दो वर्ष पूर्व शुरू की गई कोट पम्पिग योजना से लाभान्वित हो रहे ग्रामों का ब्यौरा क्या हैं,और

(घ) क्या सरकार को इस बात की जानकारी है कि गलत ढंग से पाइप लाइन जोड़ने के कारण कई गांवों में पानी नहीं पहुंच पाया है,यदि हां,तो दोषी व्यक्तियों के विरूद्व क्या कार्यवाही की गई है तथा पाइप लाइन को दुबारा डालने के लिए क्या किया जा रहा है ।

ग्रामीण क्षेत्र और रोजगार मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री चन्द्रदेव प्रसाद वर्मा): (क) से (घ) जानकारी एकत्र की जा रही है और सभा-पटल पर रख दी जाएगी ।

Poverty Alleviation and rural development programmes in Orissa

2848. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that despite all the poverty alleviation and rural development programmes implemented by Government so far, the lot of the people of the drought prone areas of Orissa continues to be the same and incidents of child labour, mortgaging the Children, land and shelter, for money and food, are on the rise; and

(b) if so, what action Government propose to take to improve the living conditions of the people in those areas and to ensure that benefits of Government schemes/programmes reach the needy and deserving?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA): (a) and (b) Government is aware of the

problems faced by the poor people in drought prone areas of Orissa. The measures taken to alleviate the sufferings of the people and development of the area include the focussed implementation of the ongoing poverty alleviation programmes as well as emergency measures under the calamity Relief Fund. Integrated area development approach is also being pursued through Long Term Action Plan (LTAP) covering a period of 7 years launched in 1995-96.

Generation of employment is most crucial for removing the hardship of the poor people and therefore special emphasis is given for major employment programmes like Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY), Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS), Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) etc. EAS is demand driven and if the allocated funds are utilised and if the need for employment continues to exist funds additional can be allocated.

EAS has now been extended to 40 more blocks in the State which includes 8 blocks of the affected districts hither to uncovered. Under DPAP, 47 blocks are covered in the eight districts of Bolangir, Sonepur, Kalahandi, Dhenkanal, Nawapara, Phulbani, Boudh and Bargarh.

During 1996-97, so far an amount of Rs. 405.05 crores have been released from centre to the State for Rural Employment and other programmes including Rs. 38.52 crores as adhoc release to drought affected districts. Funds are released to the districts even in relaxation. of exitsting norms due to drought conditions. In addition, centre has also released Rs. 36.76 crores to the State as central share of calamity relief fund. In addition, an adhoc assistance of Rs. 13 crores was released from National Fund for Calamity Relief (NFCR) for drought relief meansures, Rs. 37 crores more have been approved from NFCR for undertaking relief and rehabitation measures in the drought affected areas. Government has, therefore, taken all possible measures to improve the living conditions of the people living in the drought prone areas.

समेकित ग्रामीण विकास कार्यक्रम के अन्तर्गत आदिवासियों और हरिजनों को प्रदान किया गया ऋण

2849.**डा.वाई.लक्ष्मी प्रसाद**: क्या ग्रामीण क्षेत्र और रोजगार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) समेकित ग्रामीण विकास कार्यक्रम के अन्तर्गत आदिवासियों और हरिजनों को उपलब्ध करायी जानी वाली सुविधाओं,ऋण और रियासतों का ब्यौरा क्या हैं;

(ख) वर्ष 1994-95,1995-96 और 1996-97 के दौरान अब तक आंध प्रदेश में उपलब्ध करायी गयी ऐसी सुविधाओं,ऋणों और रियासतों का ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(ग) इस योजना को आंध्र प्रदेश के किन-किन जिलों में चलाया जा रहा है ?

ग्रामीण क्षेत्र और रोजगार मंत्री (श्री किंजरायु येरमायडु): (क) समन्वित ग्रामीण विकास कार्यक्रम के अंतर्गत गरीबी की रेखा से नीचे रहने वाले परिवारों को आय सृजन करने वाली परिसम्पत्तियों की खरीद के लिए ऋण और सब्सिडी के रूप में सहायता दी जाती है । यह निर्धारित किया है कि कार्यक्रम के अंतर्गत कवरेज का 50% अनुसूचित जाति और अनुसूचित जनजाति के परिवारों में से हो । समन्वित ग्रामीण विकास कार्यक्रम के अंतग्रत अनुसूचित जाति और अनुसूचित जनजाति के लिए सब्सिडी की सीमा कुल परियोजना लागत का 50% है जिसकी अधिकतम वित्तीय सीमा 6000 रूपए होगी ।

(ख) 1994-95 से 1996-97 के दौरान समन्वित ग्रामीण विकास कार्यक्रम के अतंर्गत आंध्र प्रदेश में अनुसूचित जाति और अनुसूचित जनजाति के परिवारों को दिए जाने वाले ऋण और सब्सिडी के ब्यौरे निम्नलिखित हैं:-

वर्ष	अनुसूचित जाति सब्सिडी ऋण (लाख रूपए में		अनुसूचित जन जाति सब्सिडी ऋण (लाख रूपए में)	
1.1994-95	2646.02	2808.31	928.30	948.11
2.1995-96	2041.41	2544.28	800.81	876.27
3.1996-97 (जनवरी,97 तक)	1733.30	2389.10	660.48	744.15

(ग) आंध्र प्रदेश के सभी जिलों में 10.2.80 से समन्वित ग्रामीण विकास कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वित किया जा रहा है।

Cementing of Road between Mohan to Chaurl Ghattl in Almora District

2850. SHRIMATI MALTI SHARMA: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the stretch of road between Mohan to Chauri Ghatti via Harara and Basot in Almora District of U.P. has not been cemented for the last 20 years;

(b) if so, whether the Central Government have earmarked any scheme under Rural Development Porgramme for cementing of the above road; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. YERRA NNA1DU): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Litigation between CSIR and ITS Employees

2851. SHRI RAJ NATH SINGH: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of legal cases the CSIR is contesting against its employees in the Supreme Court; and

(b) the details of amount spent thereon towards advocates' fee and TA/DA to officers, during the last five years, year-wise and laboratory-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) In the last five years Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) has been a party to 57 cases with its employees in the Supreme Court of India out of which 38 have already been decided while 19 are pending for final disposal before the court.

(b) Information is being collected and shall be laid on the Table of the House.

अनुसंधान और विकास उपकर के माध्यम से वसूल की गई धनराशि

2852. **श्री राम जेठमलानी**: क्या विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या देश में अनुसंधान और विकास उपकर वसूल किया जा रहा हैं;

(ख) यदि हां,तो यह उपकर कब से वसूल किया जा रहा है;

(ग) दिसम्बसर,1996 तक कुल कितनी धनराशि एकत्रित की गई हैं;

(घ) क्या सरकार ने इस उपकर के माध्यम से एकत्रित धनराशि के कोष के वितरण हेतु कोई दिशा-निर्देश तैयार किये हैं; और

(ड़) यदि हां,तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या हैं और उक्त दिशा-निर्देश के आधार पर अब तक कुल कितनी धनराशि वितरित की गई हैं ?

योजना और कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन मंत्रालय के

मंत्री तथा विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री योगेन्द्र कुमार भगतराम अलघ) (क) और(ख) जी,हां.अनुसांधन एंव विकास उपकर एक्ट,1986 जो 1 दिसम्बर,,1987 को लागू हुआ,के आधार पर उपकर का संग्रहा किया जाता है ।

(ग) 431.32 करोड़ रूपये ।

(घ) और (ड़) उपकर के व्युत्पत्र राशि को सर्वप्रथम भारत के संचित कोष में जमा किया जाता है । इस प्राप्ति से जैसा कि संसद वारा विनियोजित किया गया था,केन्द्रीय सरकार ने इंडस्ट्रियल डेवलपमेंट बैंक ऑफ इंडिया(आई डी बी आई) एंव तत्प्श्चात् प्रौद्योगिकी विकास बोर्ड को कोष उपलब्ध कराया । अभी तक सरकार ने 57.84 करोड़ रूपये जारी किये है । प्रौद्योगिकी विकास बोर्ड स्वदेशी प्रौद्योगिकी के विकास तथा उनके वाणिज्यिक अनुप्रयोग अथवा प्रौद्योगिकी विकास बोर्ड एक्ट 1995 के प्रावधानों के तहत व्यापक घरेलू अनुप्रयोगों के लिए आयातित प्रौद्योगिकी के अतंरण का प्रयास करने वाले औद्योगिक समुत्थानों तथा अन्य एजेंसियों को इक्विटी पूंजी तथा वित्तीय सहायता उपलब्ध करता है ।

धनराशि की कमी से अनुसंधान और विकास पर व्यय में कमी

2853. **श्री राम जेठमलानी**: क्या विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार का ध्यान 4 जनवरी,1997 को दैनिक हिन्दू में प्रकाशित "लैंक ऑफ फंड्स हिट्स आर एण्ड डी इन साइंस"शीर्षक समाचार की ओर दिलाया गया है ;

(ख) यदि हां,तो क्या यह सच है कि देश में अनुसंसधान और विकास पर किया जा रहा व्यय विश्व के विकासशील और विकसित देशों में इस मद में किये जा रहे औसत व्यय की तुलना में कम हैं;

(ग) यदि नहीं,तो आठवीं पंचवर्षीय योजनावधि के दौरान देश में अनुसंसधान और विकास पर वार्षिक रूप से सकल घरेलू उत्पाद का कितना प्रतिशत खर्च किया गया है; और

(घ) विश्व के विकासशील और विकसित देशों में देशवार इस प्रकार के कर्च की प्रतिशतता कितनी है ?

योजना और कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री तथा विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री योगेन्द्र कुमार भगतराम अलघ): (क) जी,हां ।

(ख) और (ग) भारत में अनुसंधान और विकास पर किया जाने वाला खर्च उपलब्ध सरकारी आंकड़ों के मुताबिक सकल राष्ट्रीय उत्पाद की प्रतिशतता के आधार पर विकसित देशों तथा कुछेक विकासशील,देशों यथा-मित्र,सिंगापुर,दक्षिण कोरिया की तुलना में कम हैं । लेकिन यह कई विकासशील देशों यथा-अर्जेंटीना,ब्राजील चीन,इंडोनशिया फिलिपीन्स की तुलना में अधिक हैं । निरपेक्ष संज्ञा के तौर पर,भारत का अनुसंधान एंव विकास खर्च 1992-93 के 5004.67 करोड़ रूपयों से बढ़कर 1994-95 में 6821.02 करोड़ रूपये हो गया है । इस अवधि के दौरान अनुसंधान एंव विकास पर खर्च सकल राष्ट्रीय उत्पाद के प्रतिशत के तौर पर करीब 0.8 रहा है ।

(घ) यूनिस्कों सांख्यिकी ईयर बुक 1995 के आधार पर कुछेक विकसित तथा विकासशील देशों का उनके सकल राष्ट्रीय उत्पाद के प्रतिशत के तौर पर अनुसंधान एंव विकास खर्च नीचे दिया गया हैं:-

देश	संदर्भ वर्ष	अनुसंधान एंव विकास व्यय सकल राष्ट्रीय उत्पाद के प्रतिशत के तौर पर
अर्जेन्टीना	1988	0.3
आस्ट्रेलिया	1990	1.4
ब्राजील	1985	0.4
कनाडा	1991	1.6
चीन	1992	0.5
मित्र	1991	1.0
जर्मनी(एफ आर जी)	1989	2.8
फ्रांस	1991	2.4
इंडोनेशिया	1988	0.2
इजराइल	1990	2.1
जापान	1991	3.0
कोरिया गणराज्य	1992	2.1
पाकिस्तान	1990	0.9
फिलीपीन्स	1984	0.1
सिंगापुर	1987	0.9
स्वीडन	1997	2.9
ब्रिटेन	1991	2.1
संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका	1988	2.9

Land Acquired in Delhi

2854. SHRI MOHINDAR SINGH KALYAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the area of land acquired by Government in Delhi;

(b) the value thereof;

(c) whether Government have paid compensation for this land;

(d) if so, whether possession of this land has been taken;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) by when possession is likely to be taken so as to check encroachment of the land?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESHWARLU): (a) Government of NCT of Delhi has reported that since 1961 till date an extent of 88818 acres has been acquired in Delhi.

(b) and (c) A sum of Rs. 603.09 crores has been awarded as compensation of the acquired land.' The compensation has been paid in almost all the cases where possession had been taken over except the cases which have been referred to the Court of Additional District & Sessions Judge under Sections 30-31 of the Land Acquisition Act.

(d) to (f) the possession of some of the acquired area could not be taken over due to built up or stay orders from trie Hon'ble High Court. The same can be taken over and handed over to the requisitioning department after vacation of the stay orders.

Irregularities in Allowment of Land by Noida

2855. SHRIMATI VEENA VERM A: SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE: SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the statement of the former Chairpersons of New Okhla Inudstrial Development Authority (NOIDA), as reported in the Pioneer, New Delhi dated the 8th January, 1997 alleging serious irregularities in allotment of land, housing and commercial permises and violation of laws and bye-laws by the officers of NOIDA;

(b) if so, whether Government have caused inquiries and investigations into these allegations; and

(c) what is the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESHWARLU): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Project for Expansion of Infrastructure and Public Amenities in Major Cities

2856. SHRI GOVINDRAM MIRI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any project for expansion of infrastructure and public amenities in major cities is under consideration of Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) whether any talks have been held with some international agencies for getting funds for this project; and

(d) if so, by when it is likely to be cleared and implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) and (b) There is no project under consideration of the Government for expansion of infrastructure and public amenities in major cities. However, a Centrally sponsored scheme for development of infrastructure in five mega cities of Mumbai, Calcutta, Chennai, Bangalore and Hyderabad was initiated during 1993-94. The main features of the scheme as approved by the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs on 16.3.1996 are:

(i) the sharing between Central and State Governments would be in the ratio of 25:25 and the balance 50% is to be met from Institutional Finance;

(ii) the projects to be included under the scheme would be of three categories:—
(a) Basic Services projects,
(b) User charge based projects and
(c) Remunerative projects;

(iii) the funds are to be channelised through a specialised institutional/ nodal agency at the State level which would provide project related finance for urban infrastructure- projects including water supply, sewerage, drainage, sanitation, city transport network, land development, slum improvement, solid waste management etc.

^c) No, Sir, No talks have been held with international agencies for getting funds for the aforesaid scheme.

(d) Does not arise.

Vacancies for SCs, STs and OBCs In Group 'D' Post in C.P.W.D.

2857. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a good number of Group "D" posts in the reserved categories for SCs, STs and OBCs have been lying vacant in various offices of CPWD in Delhi/New Delhi, since long;

(b) if so, the details of such vacancies which are to be filled up through direct recruitment; and

(c) the action contemplated in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) yes, Sir.

(b) SC — 30
ST — 23
OBC — 206

(c) The backlog vacancies of SC and ST category are being filled up under the special recruitment drive. Vacancies in the OBC category are being filled up from among the eligible casual employees belonging to the OBC category.

Water Supply and Sewerage Projects of Rajasthan

2858. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will THE PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have approved the water supply and sewerage projects of Rajasthan Government for five major towns of the State;

(b) if so, whether any budgetary allocation has been made for 1997-98 or the Ninth Five Year Plan, indicating the likely Central Government and the World

Bank assistance; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons for delay and the progress made so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) The water supply & sewerage projects of five major towns of Rajasthan, viz., Kota, Ajmer, Bikaner, Udaipur and Jodhpur submitted by the Government of Rajasthan at an estimated cost of Rs. 2022.17 crores have been approved by this Ministry in principal and recommeded for external assistance.

(b) and (c) There is no Central assistance programme for such projects. Hence, the question of making any budget allocation for 1997-98 or during the Ninth Five Year Plan in the Central budget does not arise. The World Bank has not committed to provide any assistance for this project so far. However, the State Government has informed that a budget provision of Rs. 2.94 crores has been tentatively allocated under the State sector during 1997-98.

इन्दिरापुरम योजना के अन्तर्गत नीति खण्ड सेक्टर 3 **में फ़्लैटों के आवंटन हेतु ड्रा**

2859.**श्री मती मालती शर्मा**: क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि गाजियाबाद विकास प्राधिकरण द्वारा इन्दिरापुरम योजना के अन्तर्गत नीति खण्ड सेक्टर 3 में डुप्ले फ्लैट्स के आवंटन हेतु आवेदन आमंत्रित किये गये थे,यदि हां,तो कुल निर्मित मकानों एंव प्राप्त आवेदनों की संख्या कितनी-कितनी हैं;

(ख) यदि हां,तो क्या गाजियाबाद विकास प्राधिकरण का मार्च में इन फ्लैटों के आवंटन हेतु ड्रा निकालने का कोई प्रस्ताव हैं; और

(ग) क्या यह सच है कि कुछ मकानों के लिए आवेदन नहीं मांगे गये थे; यदि हां,तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है; क्या उक्त आरक्षित मकानों को आवंटित कर दिया गया हैं ?

शहरी कार्य और रोजागर मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री तथा संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री(डा.यू.वेंकटेस्वरल): (क) गाजियाबाद विकास प्राधिकरण ने सूचना दी है कि उन्होंने इंन्दिरा-पुरम योजना सैं.3 नीतिखंड में 95 उच्च आय वर्ग डुप्लेक्स मकानों के अवंटन हेतु नवम्बर,1996 में एक स्कीम की घोषणा की थी जिसके लिए जी.डी.ए.को 250 आवेदन प्राप्त हुए हैं।

(ख) जी,हां।

(ग) जी.डी.ए.ने सूचना दी है कि सभी मकान जो बिक्री के लिए उपलब्ध थे उनको जनता में आवंटन हेतु शामिल कर लिया गया

Housing Shortage in the Country

2860. DR. B.B. DUTTA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the housing shortage at the national level in 1981 and 1991, with urban Rural break-up;

(b) the magnitude of the likely housing shortage by the end of the present century;

(c) in what manner Government propose to meet this shortage;

(d) what are the plans to make available houses to the lower and middle income groups; and

(e) the percentage of total budget (1996-97), total Eight Five Year Plan outlay and the total of GDP (1995-96) spent on housing in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) and (b) On the basis of 1981 and 1991 Census data, the periodical estimates of housing shortage made by NBO are as follows:—

	1981	1991	2000
	(in	million)	
Total housing shortage	23.00	22.90	19.93
Urban	7.00	8.23	6.93
Rural	16.30	14.67	13.00

(c) and (d) The National Housing Policy seeks to assist all, and in particular the inadequately housed and the vulnerable sections, to secure for themselves affordable shelter, through access to developed land, building materials, finance and technology. Housing being a State level activity, it is for the State Governments to formulate and implement various social housing schemes as per the plan priority and resources. The Central Government plays a supplementary role by implementing a few Centrally sponsored housing schemes viz., Indira Avas Yojana, shelter upgradation under NRY, housing Schemes for weavers, Bidi workers etc. for various target group.

(e) Precentage of total — 2% budget 1996-97 apent approx. on housing.

Percentage of public sector outlay in housing about to total 8th Plan outlay. — 1.5%

Percentage of DCP 95-96 spent on housing and urban development. — 0.11%

नीति खण्ड उच्च आर्य डुप्लेक्स फ़्लैटों का कब्ज़ा

2861.**श्री महेश्वर सिंह**: क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या गाजियाबाद विकास प्राधिकरण,उत्तर प्रदेश ने इन्दिरा पुरम् योजना के नीति खण्ड-3के अर्न्तगत उच्च आय वर्ग(डुप्लेक्स) टाइप बी का कब्जा उन आवंटितियों को दे दिया है जिन्होंने लागत धनराशि का 70 प्रतिशत भाग जमा करा दिया है;

(ख) यदि हां,तो यह कब्जा कब दिया गया और जिन आवटिंतियों को कब्जा दिया गया है उन की संख्या और तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या हैं;

(ग) यदि नहीं,तो इस सम्बन्ध में विलम्ब के क्या कारण है और क्या गाजियाबाद विकास प्राधिकरण उन आबंटितियों को जिन्होंने 70 प्रतिशत या उससे अधिक की धनराशि जमा की है और जिन्हें फ्लैटों का कब्जा नहीं दिया गया है उनकी जमा करायी धनराशि पर ब्याज देगी; और

(घ) गाजियाबाद विकास प्राधिकरण आबंटितियों को इस संबंध में विलम्ब के लिये भरपाई कैसे करेगा ?

शहरी कार्य और रोजगार मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री तथा संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (डा.यू.वेंकटेश्यरलू): (क) से (घ) सूचना एकत्र की जा रही है तथा पटल पर रख दी जायेगी ।

Apartment Registered under the Delhi Apartment Ownership Act, 1986

2862. PROF. VUAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of multi-storeyed buildings and apartments registered under the Deihi Apartment Ownership Act, 1986 from December 1, 1987 to December'31, 1996, year-wise;

(b) the amount received by Government by way of registration fee and stamp duty during the above period;

(c) whether registration of all the apartments/buildings under the above Act has been made; if not, the reasons therefore and the extent of loss of registration fee and stamp duty, separately, suffered by Government during the above period: and

(d) the steps taken to recover all such dues, the realisation made so far and the action proposed to be taken for the remainder?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U.

VENKATESWARLU): (a) to (d) Although the Delhi Apartment Ownership Act, 1986 came into force w.e.f. 1.12.1987, the competent authorities notified for this purpose could not enforce the provisions of the Act due to some inherent lacunae in the law (such as absence of penal provisions) which have since been identified and action to enact a new ligislation has been initiated.

Extension of Mega City Scheme to more Cities

2863. SHRI JOY NADUKKARA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any demand from the States that the mega city scheme be extended to more cities has been received; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to take steps to include at least one city from each State in this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

Urban Micro Enterprises Scheme

2864. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have started Urban Micro Enterprises Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of beneficiaries under the Scheme, State-wise;

(d) the amount sanctioned in this regard, State-wise; and

(e) the targets fixed in this regard during 1996-97?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT . AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Scheme of Urban Micro Enterprises (SUME) was launched in October, 1989 under the Nehru Rozgar Yojana. Under this Scheme, there is a subsidy of 25% of the project cost subject to a ceiling of Rs. 4000/- for general beneficiaries and Rs. 5000/- for SC/ST and women beneficiaries. The remaining portion of the project cost is to be provided by banks as loan.

(c) to (e) The State-wise details of beneficiaries assisted, amount of subsidy sanctioned as on 28.2.97 and targets fixed for 1996-97 are given in the Statement.

Statement

Scheme of Urban Micro Enterprises (SUME)

As on 28.2.1997

s. No.	Names of States/UTs	Beneficiaries assisted	Amount Sanctioned (Rs. in lakhs)	Target for 1996-97
1.	ANDHRA PRADESH	98,949	2040.48	10958
2.	ARUNACHAL PRADESH	853	28.71	

3.	ASSAM	17,568	230.37	1278
4.	BIHAR	22,192	1070.10	9283
5.	GOA	450	16.58	—
6.	GUJARAT	15,583	339.50	—
7.	HARYANA	16,943	388.25	1211
8.	HIMACHAL PRADESH	2718	84.73	667
9.	JAMMU & KASHMIR *	5661	183.30	778
10.	KARNATAKA	48,588	760.21	—
11.	KERALA	22,727	785.25	2981
12.	MADHYA PRADESH	1,16,604	2815.50	7944
13.	MAHARASHTRA	81,908	1966.86	13,736
14.	MANIPUR	5186	91.94	444
15.	MEGHALAYA	1961	41.57	278
16.	MIZORAM	650	48.22	167
17.	NAGALAND	—	—	—
18.	ORISSA	21,796	443.84	—
19.	PUNJAB	22,513	631.63	1106
20.	RAJASTHAN	52.429	1054.92	4889
21.	SIKKIM	842	78.34	222
22.	TAMIL NADU	1,09,500	19S7.15	11,497
23.	TRIPURA	578	28.75	167
24.	UTTAR PRADESH	1.85,846	5156.45	19,328
25.	WEST BENGAL	42,098	1004.05	—
26.	A & N ISLANDS	608	15.42	186
27.	CHANDIGARH	398	7.77	—
28.	D & N HAVELI	376	10.21	—
29.	DAMAN & DIU	179	4.87	—
30.	DELHI	1930	72.00	—
31.	PONDICHERRY	2326	21.24	—
	TOTAL	8,99,957	21,408.21	87.120

Urban populace without toilet, sanitation and drinking water facilities

2865. SHRI MD. SALIM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of urban pupulace without toilet facilities, proper sanitation and safe drinking water in 1990 and 1995;

(b) what is the total amount of funds required to meet the operation and maintenance needs of urban infrastructure: and

(c) Government's raction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATE-SWARLU): (a) Since urban water supply and sanitation are State subjects, the State-wise coverage is not being monitored by this Ministry annually. However, as per available information furnished by the State Governments , UTs, the percentage of urban pupulation which did not have access to proper sanitation and safe drinking water supply is as under:

	31.12.90	31.3.93
Sanitation	57.59%	50.89%
Water Supply	15.85%	15.67%

(b) and (c) As per the assessment of the Working Group on Urban Water Supply & Sanitation constituted by the Planning Commission for formulation of the approach to the Ninth five Year Plan (1997—2002), it is estimated that the total funds required is Rs. 51284.20

crores to achieve a target of 100% and 75% coverage of the urban pupulation with safe drinking water and sanitation facilities respectively by the end of March, 2002.

Assistance from International Financial Institutions for Drinking Water Schemes

2866. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have sought assistance from different International Financial Institutions for implementing drinking water schemes in urban areas;

(b) if so, the number of such schemes proposed to be implemented with that assistance;

(c) the States where these schemes are being implemented;

(d) whether any such scheme is being implemented in Orissa; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) The Government has sought assistance f-om International Financial Institutions, such as the World Bank, Overseas Economic Co-operation Fund (OECF) of Japan, etc. for implementing drinking water & sanitation schemes submitted by some of the State Governments.

(b) and (c) The number of such schemes proposed to be implemented with that assistance is eight. The concerned States are Andhra pradesh, (1), Rajasthan (1), Tamil Nadu (2), Punjab (1), Maharashtra (1), Karnataka (1) and Himachal Pradesh (1).

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Time and cost over-run of Sanitation Projects

2867. SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the programmes under which funds are provided to States to develop and strengthen the civic amenities of sanitation, drinking water, etc. and funds made available to State Governments under each of the scheme during the last three years, State-wise and year-wise, particularly for Maharashtra, alongwith the details of progress made;

(b) whether Government have undertaken a comprehensive review of the schemes/projects under implementation in States and if so, the main achievements and shortcomings noticed;

(c) what are the details of time and cost over-runs of the projects, particularly in Maharashtra; and

(d) the details of action plan worked out for 1997-98 for States where major proposals have been cleared recently?

THE MINISTER OF SATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) The Ministry is providing assistance to the State Governments under the following programmes for the implementation of drinking water supply & sanitation schemes:—

1. Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme for towns having population of less than 20,000 (as per 1991 Census).
2. Low Cost Sanitation for Liberation of Scavengers.

The State-wise funds released under each programme during the last three years is given in Statement-I & II, *(Sec* below).

(b) The Government has been reviewing the progress of the schemes with the State Governments from time to time. The progress has been encouraging in a number of States, including Maharashtra. 221 detailed project reports have been approved under the AUWSP and 736 schemes sanctioned under the LCS scheme for implementation. The short comings noticed are delays in implementation, land acquisition, release of matching State share, procurement of material, giving of State guarantee, etc.

(c)Details of time & cost over-runs in respect of projects implemented by the State Governments are not being maintained by the Central Govt.

(d)For 1997-98, the Government has proposed in the budget, Central assistance of Rs. 28 crores for the AUWSP and Rs. 27.8 crores for the LCS scheme.

Statement-I

Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme

(Rs. in lakhs)

SI. N	State	Funds Released (Central share)					State share released	Bkpdr. Reported
		1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97	Total		
1.	Arunachal Pd,	0.00	0.00	0.00	83.29	83.20	—	o.oo
2.	Assam	0.00	26.06	0.00	168.05	194.11	26.06	62.00
3.	Blhat	0.00	0.00	94.50	0.00	94.59	45.00	MR
4.	Goa	6.24	10.14	0.00	9.20	25.58	22.48	36.28
5.	Gujarat	71.03	87.24	27.30	70.00	255.62	146.00	90.25
6.	Haryana	30.25	34.00	77.65	86.20	228.10	142.00	235.33
7.	H.P.	8.79	9.88	82.83	16.20	118.10	52.84	146.80
8.	*J&K*	5.32	20.00	28.45	10.40	63.97	18.25	33.58
9.	Karnataka	85.15	105.12	0.00	47.58	237.85	—	190.27
10	Kerala	28.21	37.62	25.00	48.00	138.83	115.00	24.39
11	M.P.	205.10	343.19	380.53	156.12	1084.94	714.27	995.25
12	Maharashtra	85.36	92.50	36.30	159.73	373.91	100.00	264.91
13	Manipur	7.65	20.50	39.00	76.04	143.19	118.15	145.84
14	Meghalaya	0.00	0.00	48.90	10.00	58.90	18.01	24.00
15	Miioram	4.26	0.00	7.10	11.88	23.24	20.00	34.49
16	Nagaland	0.00	0.00	0.00	52.33	52.33	—	—
17	Orissa	50.23	51.13	0.90	187.47	289.73	177.76	177.59
18	Punjab	26.73	35.64	77.76	44.00	184.13	—	247.62
19	Rajasthan	81.97	177.97	237.00	306.75	803.69	1012.55	1227.09
20	Sikkim	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	—	—
21	Tamil Nadu	82.24	9.59	0.00	104.12	195.95	91.83	101.75
22	Tripura	5.16	0.00	0.00	0.00	5 16	—	—
23	U.P.	327.88	586.17	764.87	352.42	2031.34	1380.28	2116.00
24	West Bengal	39.13	52.23	71.56	0.00	162.94	39.00	201.51
.								
	TOTAL	1150.75	1699.00	1999.65	2000.00	6849.40	4239.48	6354.95

Statement-II

Low Cost Sanitation Scheme

(Rs. in **lakhs)**

SI. No	State	1994-95		1995-96		1996-97		Total	Towns
		Loan Amount	Sub-sidy	Loan Amount	Sub-sidy	Loan Amount	Sub-sidy	No. of schemes	covere
1.	Andhra Pd.	402.10	190,58	1415.85	544.32	0.00	0.00	68	68
2.	Assam	244.39	180.30	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	27	27
3.	Bihar	1271.64	1107.56	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	9	42
4.	Goa	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1	1
3.	Haryana	1038.32	934.32	4360.91	414.78	0.00	0.00	85	78
6.	JAK	0,00	0.00	0.00	514.94	0.00	312.28	9	30
7.	Karnataka	0,00	0,00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	66	66
8,	Kerala	0,00	0,00	0.00	0,00	0.00	0.00	2	13
9.	M,P,	673,30	342,11	0.00	0.00	0.00	0,00	32	112
10,	Maharashtra	0,00	0,00	7.88	2,02	0,00	0.00	11	152
11,	Manipur	0.00	27,22	0,00	0,00	0,00	0.00	2	2
12,	Meghalaya	12.20	33,88	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	2	4
13,	Orissa	33,83	30,47	16.86	13,17	0,00	0,00	63	63
14,	Punjab	1223.39	1069.32	112,72	100.69	31,39	16,46	78	75
15.	Rajasthan	102.86	161.75	0,00	1446.63	0.00	1048,63	117	117
16.	Tamil Nadu	220,37	66,98	313.73	90.34	833.74	117,63	83	87
17.	Tripura	436,38	235,14	0,00	0,00	0.00	0,00	1	12
18,	U.P,	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	4918.11	4426,27	63	63
19.	W,B.	632,39	379.23	4309.63	3622.32	0.00	17.42	12	112
20.	A&N Islands	99.48	33.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1	1
	Orand Total	6483,27	3892.09	6637.38	6751,21	6853.24	3998.71	736	1129

Continuance of subletting

2268. SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item appearing in the Times of India dated the 2nd March, 1997 under the caption "Despite SC Order, sub-letting continues;"

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(e) what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF UR1AN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) In pursuance of the direction of Hon'ble Supreme Court in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 58S95-Shiv Sagar Tiwari Vs. Union of India and others, door to door survey of Government, houses under the adminstrative control of Directorate of Estate, was started end on the basis of preliminary inspection reports, 4488 allottees in the year 1996 and 176 allottees 3upto 28.24997 have been served Show Cause Notice. Allotment of 1085

quarters have been cancelled and 634 houses got vacated after following due process of law upto 27.9.1996.

Allotment of DDA Land

2269. SHRI O.P. KOHLI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item captioned "Two crusaders lock horns for the same cause: Eight acres of DDA land allotted to Satish Sharma's wife" appearing in the Indian Express dated the 5th October, 1996;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The DDA has reported that a decision has been taken to permit the Kalakar Trust to use 3 acres of land in village Said-ul-Azaib on the basis of licence fee for putting up an Open Air Theatre with the condition that the ownership of land will continue with DDA. The Trust would not be entitled to allot the Theatre to any individual or organisation under any conditions.

स्व-रोजगार योजनाओं में गुजरात के साथ भेदभाव

2270.**श्री गोपालसिंह जीं.सोलंकी**: क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) स्व-रोजगार और मजदूरी के माध्यम से शहरों में गरीबों को रोजगार के अवसर मुहैया कराने हेतु क्या मानदंड निर्धारित किये गये हैं;

(ख) क्या इस संदर्भ में गुजरात के साथ भेदभाव किया जाता है;

(ग) यदि हां,तों उसके क्या कारण है; और

(घ) इस संबंध में क्या सुधारात्मक उपाय किये जा रहे हैं ?

शहरी कार्य और रोजगार मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री तथा संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (डा. यू.वेंकटेस्वरलू): (क) शहरी गरीबों को स्वरोजगार तथा मजदूरी रोजगार मुहैया कराने के लिए दो केन्द्र प्रवर्तित योजनाएं नामत: नेहरू रोजगार योजना तथा प्रधान मंत्री का समेकित शहरी गरीबी उन्मूलन कार्यक्रम चलाई जा रही है गुजरात के शहरी क्षेत्रों में गरीबी रेखा से नीचे जीवन यापन करने वाले सभी लोग (जिनकी घरेलु आय 11,850 रूपये प्रतिवर्ष हो) नेहरू रोजगार योजना के तहत लाभ पाने के हकदार हैं:

प्रधान मंत्री का समेकित शहरी गरीबी उम्मूलन कार्यक्रम: नवम्बर,1995 में शुरू किए गए इस कार्यक्रम में लघु उद्यम लगाकर स्वरोजगार को देना एक घटक है ।योजना के स्वरोजगार घटक के तहत वे लाभार्थी लाभ पाने के पात्र हैं जो शहरी बस्तियों (1991 की जनगणना के अनुसार 50,000 से 1,00,000 तक के बीच की आबादी) में गरीबी रेखा से नीचे जीवन-यापन करते हैं जिन्हें घर-घर सर्वे के आधार पर पहचानकर सूचीबद्व किया गया है,जिनकी वार्षिक पारिवारिक आया 1991-92 के मूल्यों के आधार पर 11850 रूपये से कम,जो उस शहर में कम से कम 3 साल से रह रहे हो और जो किसी राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंको/ वित्तीय संस्थानों/सहकारी बैंकों के दोषी न हों ।

(ख) जी,नहीं

(ग) और (घ) प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

Contract for felling trees in Rose Garden, Hauz Khas

2871. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Horticulture Department of DDA had recently authorised a private contractor to fell 78 trees in the Rose Garden, Hauz Khas for a petty sum of Rs. 35,000'- whereas the actual worth of the cut trees is a minimum of Rs. 1.56 lakhs;

(b) if so, whether Government have inquired into the circumstances leading to award of the contract for an insignificant amount, and the officials involved in the deal;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(d) what action has been taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (Dr. U. VENKA-TESWARLU): (a) No, Sir. However, DDA has reported that an auction of 55 dead/diseased trees was conducted by it.

(b) to (d) The Delhi Development Authority is getting the matter investigated into the circumstances and other aspects of the contract.

Revision of building by-laws of Delhi

2872. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Delhi Master Plan is out of date and is more theoretical than practical;

(b) if so, what steps have been taken/ proposed to be taken to review and revise the Master Plan for the National Capital Territory of Delhi; and

(c) whether building bye-laws of Delhi are also being revised to bring about uniformity in the National Territory under various Municipal authorities, for regulating the building construction activities, in view of the social needs of the people?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Constant monitoring and review of the Plan is made to ensure effective implementation of Master Paln. MPD-2001 is also under review. A steering Committee was .constituted in August, 1994 headed by Chairman, Delhi Urban Arts Commission for guiding the review of Master Plan and to suggest measures to enhance its effectiveness. The Steering Committee finalised its report in September, 1996. MPD-2001 is proposed to be updated in the light of the recommendations of the Steering Committee.

(c) Yes, Sir.

विश्व बैंक सहायता से विकसित किये जाने वाले शहर/कस्बे

2873.**श्री गोविन्दराम मिरी**: क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार ने देश में कुछ शहरों/कस्बों की पहचान की है जिनका विकास विश्व बैंक की सहायता से किया जा सकें,

(ख) यदि हां,तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(ग) उन शहरों में विकास हेतु प्रस्तावित/निर्धारित धनराशि का ब्यौरा क्या हैं?

शहरी कार्य और रोजगार मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री तथा संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (डा.यू.वेंकटेस्वरलू): (क) से(ग) चूंकि शहरी सैक्टर को उधार देने की विश्व बैंक की नीति में संशोधन किया जा रहा है इसलिए देश के किसी शहर /नगर को विश्व बैंक की सहायता से विकसित करने के लिये निर्धारित नहीं किया गया है । तथापि,मुम्बई शहरी अवस्थापना परियोजना की वित्त व्यवस्था हेतु वित्तीय मध्यस्थ बनाने के लिए महाराष्ट्र सरकार प्रस्ताव विश्व बैंक को भेजा गया हैं । इसके साथ ही महाराष्ट्र सरकार द्वारा शुरू किए गए महाराष्ट्र आपातकालीन भूकम्प पुनर्वास कार्यक्रम के तहत

लिए इटरनेशनल डिवलपमेंट एसोसिएशन ने 177 मिलियन एस.डी.आर.(27.6.94) का ऋण दिया हैं।

———

12 Noon

[The Deputy Chairman *in the Chair]*

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Notification of the Ministry of Industry

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOU MARAN): Madam, I lay on the Table under sub-section (24) of section 29B of the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Industry (Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion), Draft Notification No. Nil, dated Nil, specifying the factors on the basis of which the industrial undertakings shall be regarded as a small scale or as an ancillary industrial undertaking for the purposes of the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951. (Placed in Library *See* No. LT 1744/97)

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: Madam, I have an objection regarding Item No. I which the Minister laid on the Table of the House.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: What is your objection?

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: Mr. Minister, you are laying the draft notification on the Table of the House. This draft notification does not have the number and the date. The number and the date have been shown to be nil. Madam, there is a draft notification in respect of which I have a right to move an amendment. That should be dated. How can a draft notification be issued without being dated?

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN: Madam, I madg an enquiry about this because I myself had the doubt. They said: "Since it is a draft notification, they cannot give number or date." According to the Industrial Development Regulation Act 1951, I have to lay it on the Table of the House and wait for thirty days. Then only it will get the approval. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: Madam, you are aware that under various Acts, notifications and rules are to be laid on the Table, of the House. *(Interruptions)*

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: What the Minister is trying to say is that it is a draft notification.

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: It may be a draft notification. Even if a draft notification is to be laid on the Table of the House, then the House can make an amendment to it within thirty days. The House can make an amendment to any notification within thirty days. But the date has to be given to that. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN: I may inform you that I made an enquiry. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI MD. SALIM (West Bengal): I don't think that the Minister should be allowed to lay these papers on the Table of the House. Even if it is a draft notification, it must have a date.

SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI (Uttar Pradesh): How can we refer back to it?

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN: You can refer to it as the paper laid on the Table of the House on 20th March, 1997 as Item No- I *(Interruptions)* I made an enquiry. I consulted the Department.

SHRI MD. SALIM: If the draft notification does not bear the date, at least, the number of the notification should he there.

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN: This is a draft notification. *(Interruptions)*

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: If the hon. Members want me to hear as to what is happening in the House, then they should take their seats. There is some technical problem and I want to know as to what that problem is. I think

Mr. Minister, even if it is a draft notification, my simple knowledge or understanding is that there should be some date. If you do not want to number it, at least, some date should be there indicating the day on which the draft was prepared or presented. So, I think you can make another enquiry about the legal position. Both the hon. Members are very much agitated about it. By giving a benefit of doubt to the Minister on the basis of what the Minister has said, I will allow him. to lay the papers on the Table of the House today. Mr. Minister, tomorrow morning, you can let us know as to what the exact position is. You have one full day. You find it out and let us know as to what exactly the position.

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN: Thank you, Madam.

I. Report and Accounts (1995-96) of the Uranium Corporation of India Limited, Singhbhum, Bihar and related papers

II. Report and Accounts (1995-96) of the National Institute of Ocean Technology, Madras and related papers.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY- OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): Madam, I lay on the Table—

I. (1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act,1956:—

(i) Twenty-ninth Annual Report and Accounts of the Uranium Corporation of India Limited, Singhbhum, Bihar, for the year 1995-96, together with the Auditors' Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

(ii) Statement by. Government accepting the above Report.

(2) Statement (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (I) above. (Placed in Library *See* No. LT 1711/97)

II. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—

(i) Annual Report and Accounts of the National Institute of Ocean Technology, Madras, for the year 1995-96, together with the Auditors' Report on the Accounts.

(ii) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute.

(iii) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (i) above.

(Placed in Library *See* No. LT-1705/97)

NOTIFICATION OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT

ग्रामीण क्षेत्र और रोजगार मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री(श्री चन्द्रदेव वर्मा): महोदया,मैं कृषि उपज(श्रेणीकरण और चिंड़ांकन) अधिनियम1937 की धारा 3 की उपधारा(3) के अधीन कोको श्रेणीकरण और चिंह्नांकन नियम,1996 को प्रकाशित करने वाली ग्रामीण क्षेत्र एंव रोजगार मंत्रालय(ग्रामीण विकास विभाग) की अधिसूचना सा.का नि.सं.561, दिनांक 14 नवम्बर,1996 की एक प्रति (अंग्रेजी तथा हिन्दी में)सभा पटल पर रखता हूं ।

(पुस्तकालय में रखी गई । देखिए संख्या एल.टी. 1712/97)

Production sharing Contract between the Govt, of India and Oil India Limited and Essar Oil Limited

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) Madam, I lay on the Table, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Production Sharing Contract between the Government of India and Oil India Limited and Essar Oil Limited with respect to contract area identified as Block RJ-ON-9Q/5 [Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-1716/97]

I. Report and Accounts (1995-96) or the Hindustan Prefeb Limited, New Delhi and related papers.

II. Report and- Accounts (1995-96) of the Central Government Employees Welfare Housing Organisation, New Delhi and related papers.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATE-SWARLU): Madam, I lay on the Table—

1.(1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

(i) Forty-third Annual Report and Accounts of the Hindustan Prefab Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1995-96, together with the Auditors' Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

(ii) Review by Government on the Working of the above Company.

(2) Statement (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT-1718/97]

II. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—

(i) Annual Report and Accounts of the Central Government Employees Welfare Housing Organisation, New Delhi, for the year 1995.96, together with the Auditors' Report on the Aeeounti.

(ii) Review by Government on the working of the above , Organiiation,

(iii) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (i) above.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT-1717/97]

I. Report (1995-96) of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (No. 6, 7 and 8) and Appropriation Accounts.

II. Notifications of the Ministry of Finance (Deptt. of Revenue), (under sub-section 2 of section 38 of the Central Excises and Salt Act 1944)

III. Notifications of the Ministry of Finance (Deptt. of Revenue) (under Section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): Madam, I lay on the Table—

I. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following the papers, under clause (I) of article 151 of the Constitutions:—

(i) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended on 31.3.96 (Nc. 6 of 1997)—Union Government (Post and Telecommunications);

[Placed In Library, *Set* No. LT-1728/97]

(ii) Appropriation Accounts for the year 1995-96 (Postal Services);

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT-1732/97]

(iii) Appropriation Accounts for the year 1995-96 (Telecommunication Services);

[Placed in Library, *See* No, LT-1733/97]

(iv) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended on 31,34996 (No.

7 of 1997)—Union Government, Defence Services (Army and Ordinance Factories);

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT-1729/97]

(v) Appropriation Accounts for the year 1995-96 (Defence Services); and

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT-1731/97]

(vi) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended on 31.3.1996 (No. 8 of 1997)—Union Government, Defence Services (Air Force and Navy).

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT4730/97]

11. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Flnanee (Department of Revenue), under sub-section (2) of Section 38 of the Central Excises and Salt Act, 1944:—

(1) G.S.R. No. 110 (E), dated March 1, 1997 seeking to prescribe effective rates of basic excise duty on certain goods falling under the Schedule to the Central Excise Act,

(2) G.S.R. No. Ill (E), dated March 1, 1997 seeking to prescribe effective rates of basic excise duty on certain goods falling under the Schedule to Central Excise Act to give effect to the proposals in the Finance Bill, 1997.

(3) G.S.R. No, 112 (E), dated March 1, 1997 seeking to exempt certain goods of heading Nos. 5.01., 23.01 and 52.02 when produced or manufactured in a free trade zone or by a hundred per cent export oriented unit subject to certain conditions.

(4) G.S.R. No. 113 (E), dated March 1, 1997 seeking to prescribe a new scheme Of Concessional excise duty in respect of small scale units, with effect from 1st April, 1997.

(5) G.S.R. No. 114 (E), dated March 1, 1997 seeking to prescribe the effective rate of excise duty on certain goods manufactured in a free trade zone or a hundred percent export oriented unit, subject to certain conditions.

(6) G.S.R. No. 115 (E), dated March 1, 1997 seeking to amend notification No. 109/94 concerning compound levy relating to stainless steel pattas and pattis.

(7) G.S.R. No, 116 (E), dated March 1, 1997 seeking to prescribe full exemption from excise duty on certain goods supplied to specified research institutions.

(8) G.S.R. No. 117 (E), dated March 1, 1997 seeking to amend notification(s) No. 136/97-Central Excise dated November 10, 1994; 67/95-Central Excises dated March 16, 1997 and 1/93 Central Excises dated February 28, 1993.

(9) G.S.R. No. 118 (E), dated March 1, 1997 seeking to prescribe effective rates of additional excise duty on specified fabrics.

(10) G.S.R. No. 119 (E), dated March 1, 1997 seeking to rescind certain notification(s) No (s) 5/95-Central Excise dated January 6, 1995, 8/96-Central Excises dated the July 23, 1996, 23/96-Central Excises dated the July 23, 1996 and 17/96-Central Excises dated the July 23, 1996.

(11) G.S.R. No. 120 (E), dated March 1, 1997 seeking to amend notification No. 29/96-Central Excise (NT) so as to prescribe the percentage of deemed credit available on manufacture of specified fabrics.

(12) G.S.R. No. 121 (E), dated March 1, 1997 seeking to fix tariff

values in respect of pan masala in retail packages.

(13) G.S.R. No. 122 (E), dated March 1, 1997 seeking to make certain amendments to the Central Excises Rules, 1944.

(14) G.S.R. No. 123 (E), dated March 1, 1997 seeking to make certain amendments in notification No. 28/96-Central Excise (NT).

(15) G.S.R. No. 124 (E), dated March 1, 1997 seeking to rescind notification No. 351/86-Central Excises.

(16) G.S.R. No. 125 (E), dated March 1, 1997 seeking to rescind notification No. 27/94-Central Excises (NT).

[Pleased in Library. For (1) to (16) see No. LT. 1780/97]

III. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue), under Section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962:—

(1) G.S.R. No. 98(E), dated 1st March, 1997 seeking to prescribe fresh and consolidate certain existing, effective rates of basic and additional customs duty on various goods falling under the First Schedule to the Customs Tariff Act.

(2) G.S.R. No. 99(E), dated 1st March, 1997 seeking to continue specified, withdraw certain, and prescribe some fresh, exemptions from the special duty of customs.

(3) G.S.R. No. 100 (E), dated 1st March, 1997 seeking to prescribe effective rates of basic customs duty on specified raw materials and parts for the manufacture or electronic goods.

(4) G.S.R. No. 101 (E), dated 1st March, 1997 seeking to notify Road Development Projects of the National Highways Authority of India under heading No. 98.01 of the First Schedule to the Customs Tariff Act.

(5) G.S.R. No. 102 (E), dated 1st March, 1997 seeking to prescribe fresh and consolidate the existing, concessions in basic customs duty on specified goods imported from SAARC Countries under SAARC Preferential Trading Arrangement.

(6) G.S.R. No. 103 (E), dated 1st March, 1997 seeking to amend notification No. 26/95-Customs, dated the 16th March, 1995, so as to prescribe preferential rates of basic customs duty on specified goods imported from Bangladesh, Sri Lanka or Republic of Korea under Bangkok Agreement.

(7) G.S.R. No. 104(E), dated 1st March, 1997 seeking to amend notification No. 28/95-Customs dated the 16th March, 1995, so as to prescribe preferential rates of basic customs duty on specified goods imported from Mauritius, Seychelles and Tonga.

(8) G.S.R. No. 105(E), dated 1st March, 1997 seeking to amend notification No. 182/92-Customs, dated the 6th March, 1992 so as to delete redundant portions.

(9) G.S.R. No. 106(E), dated 1st March, 1997 seeking to amend certain notifications, including reduction of customs duty on baggage from 60% to 50% ad valorem.

(10) G.S.R. No. 107(E), dated 1st March, 1997 seeking to prescribe effective rates of customs duty, on various goods falling under the First Schedule to the Customs Tariff Act, to give effect to the proposals in the Finance Bill, 1997 for reduction in tariff rates of customs duty.

(11) G.S.R. No. 108(E), dated

1st March, 1997 seeking to rescind certain notifications.

(12) G.S.R. No. 109(E), dated 1st March, 1997 seeking to make a techinical amendment in the Customs Tariff (Determination of Origin of goods under the Agreement of SAARC Preferential Trading Arrangement) Rules, 1995.

(13) G.S.R. No. 138(E), dated 6th March, 1997 the amending Notification No. 104/95-Customs, dated the 30th May, 1995, to prescribe specific guidelines for valuation of inputs for the purpose of determing credit under Pass Book Scheme, together with an Explanatory Memorandum thereon.

[Placed in Library. For (1) to (13) *See* No. LT-1780/97]

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REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON SUBORDINATE LEGISLATION

SHRIMATI ILA PANDA (Orissa): Madam, I beg to present the Hundred and Thirteenth Report (in English and Hindi) of the Committee on Subordinate Legislation.

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REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC UNDERTAKINGS

श्री एस.एस.अहलुवालिया(बिहार): महोदया,मैं आपकी अनुमति से हिन्दुस्तान आर्गेनिक केमिकल्स लिमिटेड के संबंध में 46वें प्रतिवेदन (दसवीं लोक सभा) में अंतर्विष्ट सिफारिशों पर सरकार द्वारा की गई कार्यवाही संबंधी सरकारी उपक्रमों संबंधी समिति के चौथे प्रतिवेदन की एक प्रति(अंग्रेजी तथा हिन्दी में) सभा पटल पर रखता हूं।

REPORTS OF THE DEPARTMENT-RELATED PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS

SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA (Karnataka): Madam, I lay on the Table a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Reports of the Standing Committee on Petroleum and Chemicals:—

(i) Fourth Report on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in Twenty-Sixth Report (Tenth Lok Sabha) on 'Institute of Pesticide Formulation Technology' (Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers, Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals).

(ii) Fifth Report on Action Taken by Government on the recommendation contained in Twenty-Seventh Report (Tenth Lok Sabha) on 'Fertilizer Education Policy and Projects' (Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, Department of Fertilizers.

STATUTORY RESOLUTION

Seeking Disapproval of the Telecom regulatory Authority of India Ordinance, 1997 and The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Bill, 1997

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL (Rajasthan): Thank you, Madam Deputy Chairman for permitting me to move the Statutory Resolution.

With your permission, I move:

"That this House disapproves of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Ordinance, 1997 (No. 11 of 1997) promulgated by the President on the 25th January, 1997."

Madam, while supporting the setting up of a Telecom Regulatory Authority, which will be a statutory one, I have moved this motion primarily for two or three reasons. I am deadly opposed, since beginning, to governance through ordinances. This Government is continuing with the practice of promulgating oridnances as was the case

in the earlier regime. In this Budget Session itself nearly 14 Ordinances have been issued. We are not finding enough time to discuss this Legislative Business ami it is the primary function of Parliament to legislate. This is going to affect the lives of million of people in the country, if we legislate wrongly, then naturally people's life will be affected. So, I register my strong protest against this tendency of govenance through ordinances. That is Ordinance Raj!

This House is well aware that since May, 1994, when the Telecom Policy was announced in the House, the previous Minister had brought before the House a non-statutory Telecom Regulatory Authority Bill to which the whole House opposed to, and the same was deferred or abolished. Now, the present Minister needs my compliments for introducing, at least, in the Lok Sabha this Bill on 23rd of July, 1996. I compliment him for his effort in such a, short period.

उपसभापति: अपोज क्या कर रहे हैं आप ?

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: Issuing ordinances. I move my Statutory Resolution, but even then, if there is something good that the Minister is doing, I have to praise it.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Sure.

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: If he is not doing something or if something is lacking, as a friend I have to caution him. So, I have to caution him so that he doesn't pursue all those policies which were pursued by the former Minister during the period 1991—96.

आप उस राह पर नहीं जाइए इसलिए मैं आपको सावधान कर रहा हूं । माननीय मंत्री महोदय आप सुखराम जी की राह पर मत जाइए इसलिए पहले से ही मैं सावधान कर रहा हूं ।

The Bill was introduced by the hon. Finance Minister in the Lok Sabha on 23rd of July, 1996. This Bill was referred to the Standing Committee on Telecommunications and the Report was tabled in the House in November, 1996. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to why he did not bring this Bill in the Winter Session of Parliament which ended on 20th of December, 1996. Why didn't you bring a Bill before this House as early as 1996? When was the decision taken by the Cabinet? Why did it take so long? You could have brought this piece of legislation before this House in the form of a Bill than in the form an Ordinance which you have brought now

Secondly, the recommendations of the Standing Committee on Telecommunications which comprises Members of both the House of Parliament contain certain modifications in the draft Bill. The Government has accepted some of the recommendations and has not accepted some of the recommendations. L would like to know the rationale behind the rejection of some of the recommendations of the Standing Committee. Why have those recommendations of the Standing Committee not been accepted by the Government? When the Committee comprises Members of Both the Houses belonging to various political parties and when there is a consensus and there is a report, what was the compulsion for the Government to reject those recommendations of the Standing Committee?

Madam, now a word of caution to the hon. Minister. So far as I am aware, you are trying to improve matters. Your sincerity is there. I am not doubting your sincerity. But the mess is so large, the bungling is so much, the scandals are so many that you will have to work hard. Now I will give you a few instances in this connection and that too on the basis of a Report of the Public Accounts Committee of Parliament which has been tabled in this House on 19th of March, that is, yesterday. On the basis of that *I* would like to draw your attention to certain glaring matters which you have to look in to. Then; had been savings. Now, before J dwell on the subject, there have been various complaints in this House regarding the telephone system working

in our country. In our families if anything is to be thrown away from the house, it is the telephone equipment. It is the telephone equipment which does not normally work and this is the position. The position is much worse in rural areas. We are receiving compalints from rural areas that the telephone system is not working. We have taken up the matter with GMPs of Jaipur. I have written letters to them. In a place in Sanganir tehsil, in a local village which is a panchayat headquarter—I have written a letter recently—the telephones are not functioning at all. The system is such, the equipment is such that the telephones are not functioning. There have been savings of Rs. 150 crores on the capital account. The long-distance transmission systems and the village public systems suffer on that account. There have been savings of Rs. 638 crores. As the Department was not concerned with regard to this capital expenditure on long-distance transmission systems and more particularly with regard to the village public telephone system, they have suffered on this acocunt. The Department obtained a supplementary grant of Rs. 200 crores in March, 1995. But nothing was spent on UHF systems VHF systems, optical fibre systems, etc. No improvement was carried on. Our previous Telecommunications Minister—I am not charging you; I am only cautioning you—had purchased more equipment or more equipment was purchased by the Previous Minister than what was required. Please see the Report of the Public Accounts Committee.

I don't have that much time to dwell in detail on the recommendations of the Committee or on the observations of the Committee or on the criticisms of the Committee. The report is with me. Now Parliament sanctions certain susms to the Department, Under the Capital Head they have a saving of Rs. 638 crores regarding long distance transmission system and village telephone system. They have an excess expenditure of Rs 710 crores against the appropriations granted and the budget sanctioned by Parliament. The whole budgetary control in the Ministry of Communications has gone haywire. *(Interruptions).* I don't have the details regarding excess expenditure. They have purchased more equipment than were required. There has been a loss of stores. There are so many audit objections. Madam, you will be surprised to know that from 1980 to 1996 there are 8,675 audit objections involving an amount of Rs. 60 crores. Madam, Rs. 60 crores is not **a** big amount if we look at the bunglings that have taken place in the Department. But the audit objections are pending for the last 16 years. There is no reply. There is no resolution. There is no settlement. This *h* contained in the report. The Committee has expressed its surprise and anguish over the attitude of the Department. Ir. the budgetary appropriations or reappropriations requisite sanctions have not been obtained from the Ministry of Finance. According to the Cabinet decision and according to the Circular of the Ministry of Finance, Mr. Minister, you are required to obtain prior sanction from the Secretary, Expenditure. But wihtout obtaining those sanctions, you are incurring expenditure. You are appropriating and reappropriating. I an: not on the point of misappropriations. The man is facing the music. For God's sake, please improve the financial discipline within the Ministry. There is excess expenditure against the budget sanctioned. There is shortfall in capital expenditure despite having supplementary grants. How is it going to help the Department? This Department is one of the important infrastructural sectors of our country. Unless there is improvement in the Department, I think India will be only dreaming of entering into the 21st century and of competing with the world. We cannot do it. Please try to find out who are those officers who have been involved in the loss of stores, in embezzlement, in misappropriation. It is not that only Runu Ghosh has been

demand while moving this Resolution—who are those officers, at whatever level, who are involved in all these bunglings, in all the scandals involving the Ministry of Communications for the last five years. You hand over all those cases to the CB1. Kindly make available all the documents to the CBI and cooperate fully with the CBI. Mr. Minister, you take drastic disciplinary action against them, if they are lower level officers. If they are senior level officers, hand them over to the CBI. Don't show any mercy to the senior officers. You may show some mercy to *chaprasis* or LDCs or UDCs who may not be involved in big scandals. I do hope that the Telecommunications Policy which was announced in this House with great enthusiasm in May, 1994, which is yet to take off even after the expiry of three years, will take off now This is my good wish. But then there are various other problems that you have to address one example is that of grant of licence for basic telephone services. I would like to know, out of the 21 circles for which bidding was done, for which tenders were invited, how many operators started their work. Out of these 21 circles, in how many circles has the work started? How many licences were granted? How many have actually started functioning? How many cases are pending in courts? What is the problem? We have been putting these questions. We have been raising these issues. We have given notices for Calling Attention. We have discussed it in this House. But for how long? We will be wasting time by discussing the issue through Calling Attention and Short Duration Discussion. Mr. Nilotpal Basu knows this very well. He knows much more about the telecom sector than what I know. I do hope that he will support my Resolution so far as the Ordinance is concerned. So far as the setting up of a Statutory Telecom Regulatory Authority is concerned, we have fought with and nail for this purpose. Three years have been wasted in the setting up of the Regulatory Authority. This should have been acceded to by the earlier regime in 1994 itself. When it was not agreed to, it led to a very unpleasant situation in this House when all of us on this side put up a stiff fight for it. Madam, I am not against the spirit of the Bill for setting up a statutory Telecom Regulatory Authority. But there are many shortcomings in the department. So, I am moving this Resolution. I have availed of this opportunity to bring to the notice of the Minster more changes that are required in the Bill. I request him to be firm. Be strict. Take drastic action against all those who are found to be involved in scandals and in bungling in the last five years and handover these cases to the CBI without fearing the political fallout of the same. With this, I move the Statutory Resolution. *...(Interruptions)...* I don't disapprove the Bill I disapprove the Ordinance.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: He is disapproving the Ordiance. Agarwalji, are you going to withdraw it now, or at the time of passing. *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: Later on. I want to hear the reply of the Minister.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. *Fernandes...(Interruptions)...* Mr. Minister, you please move the Bill. I thought we had already started the discussion because Agarwalji spoke so extensively on it. Mr. Minister, you please move it and then speak on it.

संचार मंत्री(श्री बेनी प्रसाद वर्मा): मैडम,मैं आपकी आज्ञा से प्रस्ताव करता हूं कि **:**

"भारतीय दूरसंचार विनियामक प्राधिकरण,1977 पर चर्चा की जाएं ।"

उपसभापति: आप बोल भी दीजिये,भाषण भी कर दीजिये जो आपको बोलना हैं ।

श्री बेनी प्रसाद: चर्चा शुरू हो गई हैं ।

उपसभापति: नहीं-नहीं चर्चा नहीं हुई है । अगर कोई आर्डिनेन्स आता है और आर्डिनेन्स का कोई अपोज करता है तो अपोजर पहले बोलता है कि हम ये अपोज कर रहे है और उसके बाद आप मूव करेंगे तो आप

अपना भाषण कर दीजिये । Then I will call somebody else to speak

श्री बेनी प्रसाद वर्मा: मैडम,माननीय सतीश जी बहुत ही सम्मानित सदस्य है और मैं उनका बहुत आदर करता हूं । उन्होंने जो विचार यहां पर रखे है उनसे हमको कार्य करने में काफी सहयोग मिल रहा है । अध्यादेश जारी करने का उन्होंने विरोध किया है । संसदीयपद्वति में अध्यादेश बहुत ही आवश्यक हो तभी जारी करना चाहिये,इस पर बहुत लम्बी बहस संसद में हो चुकी है । यहां हम तो जूनियर मोस्ट मेम्बर हैं । हमें ज्यादा काम करने का अवसर विधान सभा में मिला है और ज्यादा अपोजिशन में,सरकार में सिर्फ तीन बार । हम भी अध्यादेश के विरोधी है । अध्यादेशों के जरिये काम-काज चले,यह हमारे कांस्टीट्यूशनल स्प्रिट के खिलाफ है,हम इसको मानते हैं । लेकिन अध्यादेश का प्रोविजन जो रखा गया है इसलिए रखा गया है कि सरकार के सामने जब बहुत ही आवश्यक स्थिति हो तो उसका इस्तेमाल करे ।

कदाचित् माननीय अग्रवाल जी मुझसे सहमत होंगे कि सबसे पहले नाम स्टेट्यूटरी बिल लोक सभा में जनवरी 1995 को लाया गया था । लोक सभा ने इसको पारित भी कर दिया था लेकिन माननीय राज्य सभा ने इस पर ऐतराज किया और यह स्टैडिंग कमेटी को चला गया । स्टेडिंग कमेटी ने स्टेट्यूटरी बिल की रेकमडेन्स की 1 जनवरी,1996 में फिर आर्डिनेंस हुआ । मार्च 1996 में फिर दुबारा आर्डिनेस हुआ और जून 1996 को जब हमको सेवा करने का अवसर मिला तो हमने इस आर्डिनेंस को लैप्स हो जाने दिया और जुलाई में हमने बिल सदन में इन्ट्रोड्यूज कर दिया । हमारी भावना बहुत स्पष्ट थी कि अध्यादेश नहीं,इस बारे में एक कम्प्रहेंसिव बिल ही सदन के सामने आना चाहिए और उस पर विचार होना चाहिए । उसके बाद यह बिल स्टडिंग कमेटी के सुपुर्द हो गया । स्टेंडिंग कमेटी की सिफारिशें हमें नवम्बर में प्राप्त हुई । 20 नवम्बर से 20 दिसम्बर तक शीतकालीन सत्र चला इसलिए स्टेंडिंग कमेटी की रिपोर्ट और रेकमन्डेशंस पर विचार करने के लिए सरकार के पास सदन के चलते पर्याप्त समय नहीं था । इसमें थोड़ा विलम्ब हुआ । माननीय सदस्यों को शायद मेरा यह बयान मालूम हो,जब हमसे प्रेस वालों ने पूछा कि क्या आप इस पर आर्डिनेंस जारी करेंगे या बिल पेश करेंगे । हमने यही उत्तर दिया कि हम आर्डिनेंस के पक्ष में नहीं है,कम्प्रहेंसिव बिल ही हम सदन के सामने लायेंगे । लेकिन इस बीच में कुछ व्यावहारिक कठिनाइंया विभाग में उत्पन्न हो गई । मुफे यह कहने में कोई हिचक नहीं हैं कि खासकर बेसिक सेलुलर टैरिफ, बेसिक सर्विसेज के जो लाइसेंस इश्यू करने थे,उनके एग्रीमेंट साइन करने थे,दुनिया के जितने भी रिप्रजन्टेटिव्स आते थे,वे सभी पूछते थे कि टी.आर.ए.बिल आपके यहां कब आएगा और इस बिल के बारे में सन्देह बना हुआ था,सिर्फ हमारे देश में नहीं बल्कि पूरे विश्व में कि रेगुलेटरी आथारिटी बनेगी या नहीं बनेगी । बगैर रेगुलेटरी आथारिटी के लोगों को विश्वास प्राइक्टाइजेशन और लिब्रलाइजेश में बन नहीं पा रहा था । इसलिए हमने मजबूरी में अध्यादेश में जारी किया और उसका हमें लाभ भी हुआ । सेलुलर आपरेटर्स हाई कोर्ट गए,वहां उनको स्टे नहीं मिला । हमको यह कहने में कोई हिचक नहीं है कि उनसे उन्होंने कोई सप्पर्क नहीं किया । अगर उनको व्यावहारिक कठिनाई होती तो हम भी विचार कर सकते थे,उसको शार्ट-आउट कर सकते थे । लेकिन कारपोरेट सेक्टर की की एक टेडेंसी हो गई है कि कोर्ट में चले जाओं वहां हमें फौरन स्टे मिल जाएगा । लेकिन माननीय कोर्ट ने उनको स्टे नहीं दिया । फिर भी उन्होंने हम से सम्पर्क नहीं किया और वे डिवीजन बेंच में चले गए । डिवीजन बेंच में भी यही आर्डर हुआ कि टी.आर.ए.आई.कंस्टिट्यूट हो गई है,उसके मेंबर नामिनेट हो गए है,उसका चेयरमैन नामिनेट हो गया है,वह इस मैटर को शार्ट आउट करेगा । इसलिए हमने इस अध्यादेश को जारी करके अपने कामकाज को सुचारू बनाया है और जों इसमें व्यवधान पैदा करने का प्रयास किया गया उस व्यवधान को समाप्त करने के लिए मजबूरी में अध्यादेश जारी किया है । किसी अध्यादेश या अध्यादेशों के जरिए सरकारी कामकाज चले,इससे हम सिद्वान्ततः सहमत नहीं हैं ।

श्रीमन्,मैं समझता हूं कि इसके बारे में मेरा इतना स्पष्टीकरण पर्याप्त है और बाकी हमारी माननीय सदस्य जब इस आथारिटी के बारे में अपने विचार व्यक्त करेंगे,हम अपने उत्तर-भाषण में प्रवास करेंगे कि अपने अल्प ज्ञान से उनको संतुष्ट करें,यही हमको इस संकल्प पर कहना था । धन्यवाद ।

The *questions were proposed*

SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES (Goa): Madam, I rise to support this Bill to form the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Bill, 1997. In fact, this Bill is long over-due because we have privatised this telecom service sector two years back. It would have been most approriate if this authority was established first and thet

we proceeded in privatising because we have called a lot of private investment in 21 circles.

As this Bill has already gone through the Standing Committee, I don't think we will have much objection against it. All the same, the Government should not have broguht this Bill through an Ordinance, as has rightly been mentioned by my hon. colleague. He has already mentioned that all the recommendations of the Standing Committee are not incorporated in this Bill. I don't know what the objection of the Government is and I hope the hon. Minister will explain what the objections of the Government are because of which some of the recommendations could not be incorporated in the Bill.

Sir, this Authority is going to be a super-authority, superseding the obsolete Indian Telegraph Act, 1885. This is as old as the Congress party itself. This new Authority will be a super-authority. Again, there is going to be a Licencing Authority. This Authority, according to clause 14, I think, is going to sit in appeals also. The Government has mentioned that appeals against the orders passed by this Authority shall lie before the High Courts. But, Sir, this is a Central Authority. I think it would have been appropriate to avoid long litigation, that appeals against the orders of Authority should have been allowed to be preferred before the Supreme Court instead of High Courts because this Authority will sit in Delhi. If you say that appeals against its order should lie before the High Courts, then you are giving scope for litigation. The more the scope .for litigation, the more is the delay.

I appreciate the efforts of the Government to constitute this Authority because there is now going to be a level-playing field simply because until now telecom was under the public sector. The Government was the monopoly so much so the service to the consumers, the public at large, was so bad that they were held to ransom by the Government Departments.

Now the hon. Minister has mentioned that only disputes relating to licences will come before this Bench. The Minister has mentioned that there will be a Bench comprising the Chairman and two other Members which will hear the appeals. But he did not tell us who these two Members would be. I would like to know whether these two Members are from the Authority which the Minister said is going to comprise a Chairman and two-to-six other Members or whether they would be taken from outside. This aspect has not been clarified. The hon. Minister should clarify this point.

Sir, I welcome this Bill inasmuch as it has already created a lot of controversy. The Government has given licences to cellular telephone operators, radial telephone operators. The agreement was that when you telephone from a fixed telephone of MTNL to a cellular phone or a radial phone, the billing would be done as if it was a local call. But now the Government is saying that it wilj be commuted as a trunk call. Then there will be disputes and there is nobody to decide. And the consumer is just held to ransom. The consumers have to pay whatever the Government would say. .1 think it will be very appropriate if this Authority sits in judgement and decides such matters expeditiously. I would also like to request the hon. Minister to see that this Authority makes arrangements to hear disputes relating to excess billing also. Many complaints of exorbitant telephone bills are pending in the country. The consumer is forced to pay the exorbitant bill. Otherwise, his telephone connection would be disconnected. I would like to know whether such complaints will also come up before this Bench. If they do not come, then I think the Government can make a provision to stop litigation in the courts which will take years together and sometimes the Government is forced to

pay compensation because of the awards of consumer courts to which consumers can go. I think the Government can make a provision in the Bill saying that nothing will lie before any court, including the consumer forums and that any such disputes shall be preferred before this Authority. I would request he hon. Minister to promise us that there will be State-level Authorities also because this is going to be a Central Authority. If the Government proposes that there will be a local Authority, perhaps at the Circle-level, we will have such appellate authorities or smaller Benches who can sit and decide this type of cases. If this provision is made, I think it will be a boon to the consumers in this country. Yesterday we have mentioned, this because this Bill is drafted on the pattern of any other existing statute relating to appellate authorities. Yesterday there was a unique authority, the Environment Appellate Authority. The maximum age limit for the Chairman was fixed at 70 years and here the Minister has fixed it at 65 years. I don't know why there is this discrepancy. Again, the members that you appoint cannot be in Government service. A person has to retire from the Government service. In a way, this is an in-built provision for rehabilitation of retiring bureaucrats. You have mentioned this in the Bill, hon. Minister. This means if a person has to join here, he has first to retire from the Government service. Why should you not take a serving officer, a young serving officer who can offer his services while retaining his lien on the post in his department and later he can go back? This provision should be incorporated in the Bill so that you can have better expertise available with you. It should not be for the rehabilitation of old retiring officers. They will take retirement just before their retirement is due and join here.

I think telecom under the Telegraph Act only will be covered by this Authority. We have telecom in the Railways also. They are also likely to use cellular phones or the radial phones because they do not want to invest in optical fibre cables as these are very expensive whereas the telecom facility via satellite is very cheap. I would like to know whether the telecom services of the Railways or any other organisation will also be brought under this Regulatory Authority or not. Otherwise, there will be chaos in this field. Has the Government made any provision in this regard?

Then I want to mention about the 21 Circles. The Government had advertised and offered these services to the private sector, and big sharks have cornered all these licences. Some of the. licences in certain Circles are not being operated, neither have those Circles being offered to other people. I would like to know whether the Government will refer this matter also to the authority to see to it that these Circles become operative and the services are extended to the consumers.

Again an issue was raised yesterday and that is very pertinent and relevant here. The hon. Minister replied yesterday that some telephone connections were sanctioned on priority basis to terrorists. I would like to know whether any provision for any clearance in this regard has been made here. If you want to have a cellular phone, you go across the counter and have it just for Rs. 15,000. I would like to know whether you will make some provision here for taking the clearance from the Police, especially in respect of applicants from terrorist-infected areas and border areas. The antecedents of an applicant should be verified by the Police before granting him a cellular phone. Otherwise, this facility can be misused.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: And the telephone cannot be tapped. A cellular phone doesn't.....

SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES: That is a very relevant point. Yesterday I received a parcel from my friend in

America. It was open. And today I read in the newspapers that the Government is tapping the phones and opening the mail. Madam, even my mail was opened. I got a parcel from Los Angeles yesterday. It was opened and they had put an Indian scratch-tape on it. The parcel came from America.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: What was the parcel?

SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES: Just plain documents, Madam. So, that is a very relevant point raised by you. I don't know why the mail of even the Members of Parliament is being tampered with. You can make it out because the foreign tape has been removed and the Indian tape has been used. I don't know what the Government wants to do with our mail. Anyway, thani> you for giving me this opportunity and I hope the Minister will clarify these points.

श्री बेनी प्रसाद वर्मा: महोदया,आज ही हमने इंडियन एक्सप्रेस में यह खबर पढ़ी है- उसके फ्रंट पेज पर । लेकिन हमारा क्वेश्चन आवर था लोक सभा में और उसके बाद टी.आर.ए.बिल पर डिबेट होनी थी । हमने भी इसको गंभीरता से लिया है और हम अधिकारियों से बात करेंगे जो इस तरह की शिकायतें आई हैं । अपने अधिकार क्षेत्र से बाहर हम किसी भी खुफिया एजेंसी को नहीं जाने देना चाहते हैं और अधिकारियों से बात करके इस संबंध में निर्देश जारी करेंगे ।

SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES: Madam, It is not a question of one parcel only. In States, every political party has dissident activities and the ruling party issues directions to the CID. They go and tap their telephones in connivance with officials inside, illegaly. I have been told that the State Governments make some arrangement with the CID to collect some information. They pay to the driver the Minister's driver and all these people. This money is dished out to telephone officials to tap telephones because you get free information. Telephones of even Members of Parliament are being tapped. I would like to know whether the Minister will see that this rule is strictly followed because they follow it illegaly as there is nothing in black and white. Madam, this is happening. Madam, you rightly made that mention. I hope this precaution will be taken by the hon. Minister because liberalisation does not mean that we have to go against the interest and national security of the country. With this submission, I support this Bill.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It is easy to tap normal telephones, but for tapping and keeping cellular phones under check, you need a special equipment which is quite expensive.

Well, we all are against tapping telephones—as you said rightly and there was a mention in the House about terrorist areas where nobody would know as to what is being talked on a cellular phone which can be carried anywhere by an individual.

श्री बेनी प्रसाद वर्मा: मैडम,सेलुलर के बारे में भी सरकार को सुरक्षा की दृष्टि से अगर मॉनिटरिंग की आवश्यकता हो तो यह फैसिलिटी होनी चहिए । यह टेंडर कंडीशन में भी है । सेलुलर आपरेटर्स ने अभी उस टेंडर कंडीशन को फुलफिल नहीं किया है । हमने उनको 30 अप्रैल की फाइनल डेट दी है कि तब तक वे मॉनिटरिंग इक्विपमेंट अपने वहां लगा दें अदरवाइज़ हम कोई फरदर लीगल एक्शन में भी कर सकते हैं । और इसमें प्रावधान है कि अगर कोई आई.बी.,सी.बी.आई.कभी किसी का भी टेलीफोन टेप करना चाहती है तो उसको हमारे डिपार्टमेंट को नंबर लिख कर देना पड़ता है और हम उसको टैक्नीकल फैसिलिटी उपलब्ध कराते हैं । अगर कहीं कोई उस का मिसयूज़ कर रहा हैं तो उसके लिए अभी हमने सी.बी.आई.से जांच कराया था कांग्रेस के माननीय संसद सदस्यों का और सी.बी.आई.की रिपोर्ट उसमें आ गई थी इस तरह की टैपिंग को देखने के लिए अगर कोई राजनीतिक लोगों की तरह की बात हो या कोई भी हो तो उसके बारे में हमारा बड़ा खुला दिमाग है कि वह नहीं होना चाहिए । उसमें अगर कोई इस तरह की बात होती है तो कोई अधिकारी कोई भी गलती करता है,हमारे विभाग के कोई अधिकारी गलत तरीके से करता है तो हम उसके लिए कार्यवाही करने के लिए हमेशा तैयार है ।

DR. GOPALRAO VITHALRAO PATIL (Maharashtra): Madam Deputy

Chairperson, thank you very much. First of all, I also join my leader in opposing this Ordinance (No. 11 of 1997) promulgated by the President on 25th January, 1997. This practice of governing through Ordinances in the largest democracy of the world should be despised and it should always be protested against. Madam, 19 Ordinances have been brought forward in this session only for approval by Parliament. This is not democratic; therefore, I oppose this Ordinance.

As far as the Bill is concerned, its purpose is quite sound. There should be Telecom Regulatory Authority in our country, and this is a must. Therefore, I support this Bill.

The second thing is telecommunications is the most modern technology in the world. People are already talking in terms of information, super high waves. Madam, Internet, E-Mail and many other methods of communications on short-waves and long-waves are causing many complications. Just now, we discussed about information being transferred to terrorists and smugglers without it being known to us. This is a very complex situation. Not only this aspect, but the other aspect is also very important. Madam, telecommunications in the world is a golden goose and it is a multi-billion industry. In India also it is developing very fast. Madam, we want to provide about 10 million telephones over and above the existing 12 million telephones. For this we have to make a huge investment of about Rs. 60,000 crores. That is why we have invited private and foreign capital investment and players in this field. Therefore, as I said, there are problems of inter-connectivity which is a very important aspect of this telecommunication business. It requires a lot of control. So, the TRAI is a welcome effort. I feel that before instituting TRAI more and more administrative work should been undertaken because the Authority is not so very perfect. For example, how will we be able to determine the inter-connectivity charges because they are a very complex mechanism? The other example is that when you send E-Mail, people indulge in Internet practices. There are also different costing mechanisms in various foreign countries. We have yet to learn more from them. Therefore, when we want to form such an agency as TRAI, such persons who have the knowhow of these practices should be thereon it. This body should consist of those people who will be able to protect the interests of the consumers first in our country because we are going in for very high technology which is a very costly thing. Madam, our people need basic and working telephones first. Telephones are there, but they are not working. The cost of those telephones which are already in existing will also go high. This aspect will also have to be seen. Madam, my first suggestion is that in this Authority people should be from the consumers side, private sector and other people who are experienced and experts. At present the Chairman and other Members are from the Government. If this body has to work effectively this body should have those people who are experts and who can protect the interests of the consumers. This is my first submission. The second thing is about the age of the persons who will be there on this body. It should be 65 years. I feel they should retire at the age of 65. Madam, the problem is regarding the Chairman. There is a condition that he should be a Judge or he should be a retired Chief Justice of any High Court. Madam, the retirement age of Judges of the Supreme Court an the High Courts itself is 65 years and 62 years. How can these people become Chairman and Members of TRAI? This is my first apprehension due to the very fact that we want the retired people and the 'retired people' retire only after the age of 65 years. This is a contradictory thing which I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister because here the retirement age of the Member is 65 years. This is one thing. The second

things is that all the members of this Committee will be from the Government side. It seems there will be six Members. I suggest that people who will be members of this Authority should be experienced and they should be in the knowhow of the various aspects even though they are younger. Younger people have the knowhow of modern technology whether it is video or audio or any other method of communication. How can old people understand the Internet? This is my first submission.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You want that some technical people should be there on the Authority. ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. GOPALRAO VITHALRAO PATIL: They should be experts in technical matters ...*(Interruptions)*... They should also be able to protect the interests of the consumers. The Government people should also be there. ... *(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES: Madam, IAS Officers who are young, can keep their lien with the Government and can become members of this Authority. Why should they retire? ... *(Interruptions)*...

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA (Bihar): Madam, why should he doubt the integrity of the middle-aged persons? ...*(Interruptions)*... Young is young, it is all right. He should not suspect the integrity of others. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: My worry is about the knowledge and competence of the persons who will be there on this Authority. ...*(Interruptions)*... My worry is not about young or old. ...*(Interruptions)*... The persons who are going to be on this Authority should know something about telephones. Apart from a legal matters coming before it, there are other technical matters, as Mr. Patil says, with nternet, with modern information echnology. Somebody should know what s happening. So, some member should be specifically from the technical field. This is my suggestion to the Minister. If he cannot have the Chairman, at least, one of the Members has to be a technical person who knows these things. Then it will keep a check on the new system ... *(Interruptions)*...

SHRI GOPALSINH.G. SOLANKI: Madam, so far as the case of the Chairman is concerned, the age is prescribed as 65 eyars, whereas, High Courts Chief Justice and Judges of the Supreme Court are also retiring at the age of 65.

DR. GOPALRAO VITHALRAO PATIL: I am also saying the same thing.

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI (Kerala): Madam, the Bill says, 'A member shall be a person who has special knowledge of, and professional experience in telecommunication, industry, finance, accountancy, law, management and consumer affairs'. It can be more than one member. The young people with modern techniques of management may be recruited. Even campus recruitment could be done. Instead of going always for retired people, why not the Government think in terms of modern management technique or campus recruitment?

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN. Yes ... *(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: Moderr management techniques are much different and advanced than the earlier ones.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN. There is so much of unemployment for the youth. We should try to give them some employment somewhere ...*(Interruptions)*... we have to solve the problem of employemtn ...*(Interruptions)*... If we are going only for retired people then what is the youth going to do? ... *(Interruptions)*...

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Madam, we are creating so many refugee centres.

DR. GOPALRAO VITHALRAO PATIL: Madam, my next submission is,

TRAI should be an independent and its function should be transparent. Here, in this Bill, it is pointed out that TRAI should consult the Government and get some instructions even from the Government. That is not so very fair. It should be an independent body with transparent functioning.

The third point is, as I have already told you, there are so many problems and the most important is "inter-connectivity." This is a very costly business. As you might have heard, if a programme has to be televised then there are so many bids and so many big people come in the field Therefore, I suggest that some preliminary work should be undertaken by the administration before TRAI comes into existence and all formalities of the cost structure should be taken into consideration.

The next thing is, Clasue 35 requires prior approval of the Central Government. As I told you, prior approval of the Central Government should not be there because it is an independent body. Regarding the other provisions of the bill take, for example the functioning of the Telecommunications Department. The Telecommunications Department might be funcitoning independently. And TRAI is also there. So, the Telecommunications Department should be completely under the TRAI. That is my another suggestion. It should not interfere, in any way, with the TRAI. It should have the same norms as are there for the other private operators, that is, there should be a level playing field for the Department of Telecommunications as well as other parties who will be there. With these suggestions, I thank you so much for giving me this opportunity.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, we have Mr. Nilotpal Basu. But, we have only five minutes for lunch. If you agree, I will adjourn the House five minutes early and we can meet five minutes early so that your speech is not disrupted. I know, you have done a lot of work on it,

TO I feel that we can resume the discussion at five minutes to two. So, the House is adjourned for lunch.

The House then adjourned for lunch at fifty-five minutes past twelve of the clock.

2.P.M.

The House reassembled after lunch at three minutes past two of the clock.

[THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY) *in the Chair.}*

The VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): We will continue the discussinon on the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Bill, 1997.

Mr. Nitlotpal Basu.

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU (West Bengal): Thank you, Mr. Vice-Chairman. At the very outset, actually I want to derive a sense of pleasure because this Bill is definitely the product of the prolonged struggle that the then opposition conducted in this House. I think, in the statement which has prefaced the introduction of the Bill, the Minister himself has also admitted this fact in so many words when he referred to the case of cellular operators.

In fact, the Telecom Regulatory Authority is absolutely a *sine qua non* for the process of liberalisation in a sector like telecom. Unfortunately, Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, it does not speak well of this House. New, emerging areas are coming up the wo^d over, more so in the developed countries. There is a very big debate going on, and the common idea that liberalisation essentially implies less of regulation, is actually being opposed. Liberalisation in the service sector should pre-suppose and pre-empt very strong regulation in order to defend and secure the interests of the consumers. Therefore, the process was prolonged almost to a couple of years. When the Bill was first introduced, a regulatory body was to be provided for without any

statutory rights. We raised this point and wanted the introduction of the private sector in the basic services before the formation of the regulatory authority. It is good that the Standing Committee of Parliament on the Ministry of Communications has made a threadbare study of the original Bill and has come up with very good recommendations. So, I would urge upon the hon. Minister that while replying, at the very outset, he should clarify why the five recommendations made by the Standing Committee have not been accepted by the Government. I would also urge upon the Government to apply its mind on certain suggestions which 1 am going to offer on the Bill. Though it is an improved Bill, yet there are certain inadequacies. These inadquacies arise out of the nature of the telecom services. The Minister will definitely agree that the telecom is basically a network service. It is a seamless service. It is again a network wherein we envisage several players. Smooth functioning of such a network can only be ensured, if the smaller piece of the network, the broad service providers, integrate to form really a seamless network.

Sir, in providing the universal access to the consumers of the telccome services the world over, there is an inbuilt clement of cross-subsidy, because the initial commission is less than the actual cost. The gap between the two is made up through the tariff imposed on the services. While imposing the tariff, it has also been noticed historically all over the world that the subscribers with greater number of calls subsidise for the subscribers with smaller number of calls. But, in a monopoly situation there is an inbuilt element of cross-subsidisation. When multi-players come in a samless network, it is very necessary that through the tariff measures the Authority ensures that the level of rent and the level of | tariff paid by small users is maintained at a lower level. There have been studies which establish that the lower the rate of proportion of the per capital income to GDP, the greater is the penetration of telephones. Since this is being discussed in the framework of the National Telecom Policy, it is very important to see that this authority, while working. ensures some continuity in nuns of providing this cross-subsidy. Otherwise, it will adversely affect the penetration of the telephone density in this coumtry. to which the entire policy is gcard. Therefore, 1 think the element of universal access and the goal of achieving it within the shortest possible time should have been provided in the preamble of the Bill itself. I do not know how it can be moved at this stage. However, I would request the Minister to consider this specifically and bring forth an amendment. I think these are till interlinked. Unless there is a universal access, this consideration of cross-subsidy cannot come in. Ultimately, it would affect the penetration. Therefore, universal access is a must. Then, there should be some consideration for protecting the interests of small consumers. I think that should also come as a pari of the preamble. So far as the title of the Bill is concerned, this is again one issue which is being debated in the West especially opening up of the service sector and how to protect the consumer interests. So, this can be done either in the title of the Bill itself or the Government can conic up with a subordinate legislation whereby some institutionalised mechanism for providing an office of the 'Telecom consumers Public Council" can be there. Some people were talking about the industry. Some other people were talking about finance. Where is the specific safeguard for the interest of the consumers? I think under the office of the Telecom Consumers Public Council, there can be its branch at the State level, at the district level and at the Telephone Exchange level. So, from the grass-root level, there can be some kind of an institutional safeguard for protecting the interests of the consumers. In a sector like this where we are envisaging big private investment and that too foreign

investment, it is very essential to have some kind of an institutional safeguard to protect the interest of consumers. (Time-bell). I crave your indulgence. I have a few more points.

So far as qualifications for appointment to the posts of Chairperson and members and criteria for selection are concerned, these have been provided in Chapter 2. I think the words of the clause is such that it would give an impression that we are trying to facilitate the appointment of a serving Government servant or a retired Government servant as members of the Authority. Since, this is an Authority, people can come from all walks of life. What is important is, as Madam Deputy Chairman was remarking earlier, the issue is not actually the office occupied but in terms of the actual experience and the actual level of competence. So, I think it would be better if we specify particularly the operational experience in the telecom sector with certain years of experience in the operation of the telecom services. Secondly, people having financial - background not in general terms, but in telecom finance should apply. These seats are becoming so specialised that persons having financial background in the power sector cannot make out anything in the telecom sector, one should possess financial background in the telecom sector only. So, I think it is necessary to have this specified that people having financial and operational experience in the telecom sector only need apply to the post of member. It should take care of the legal aspect also. The composition of the authority should be so comprehensive that it can cope with the emerging challenges. So, I would urge upon the Minister that some kind of specification is necessary.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): Mr. Basu, you can give your suggestions to the hon. Minister because your time was eight minutes and you have exhausted that, kindly be brief.

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: Mr. Nilotpal Basu has developed an expertise in telecommunications. So, eight minutes or 18 minutes is immaterial

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): If you give your party's time, it will be fine.

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: I won't mind that.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): Okay.

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: But I will take more time for my party. You are so liberal. I know that

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: That way, Mr. Narayanasamy will also be prepared to lend some of his time.

SHRI ASHOK MITRA (West Bengal): You mean the Vice-Chairman.

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: 1 am not talking about the Vice-Chairman. I am talking about Mr. Narayanasamy in the Congress benches.

There is another point. Why am I bringing in these issues? We think that the authority must be very independent, very autonomous. But, at the same time, whether it is a question of national authority, whether it is a question of protection of the consumer rights, whether it is a question of other national interests, the point is that autonomy must be within a set of very strictly laid down parameters. Unless that is there, there may be a tendency of this authority also acting in an arbitrary manner. Therefore, I think it is very important that the composition of members must be very specified.

As you have directed me to be brief, Mr. Vice-Chairman, I will not take a long time. In clause 11(2) of the Bill, powers to notify rates have been referred to. I think it is necessary to mention that the authority may fix

differential rates for different persons or classes of persons to protect the interests of purely residential and small business consumers and of consumers in rural and other backward areas. In public interest and in furtherance of the objective of universal service, where diferent rates are so specified, the authority shall record its reasons for the same in writting. I am saying this again to protect the element of cross-subsidy which is there in the telecom services all over the world, but for which the growth of telecom services in the country will be adversely affected.

Then, I think we can provide for it in the rules, that the Government can bring it in as a subordinate legislation. Clause 11(4) is on transparency. How do we operationalise the concept of transparency that has been there? It is a very good addition in the Bill; I mean the concept. But it has to be elaborated.

Finally, there is another think. If not through an amendment, it can also be brought in by means of a subordinate legislation. That is with regard to an office of Telecom Consumers Public Interest Council. I think this is a very important concept emerging in all the other countries. So, in our country' context also, this has to be brought in. We are chartering an unknown path so far as our country is concerned. There are not only basic services, but there are other value-added services also like cellular operations, paging, radio-transtelephoning, E-Mail and Internet. I would like to respond to the issue which the Minister also mentioned about the cellular operators.

Now, Sir, this is not a one time business. A comperhensive thinking has to come in because these are very complicated concepts of accounting, of financing, and unless those comprehensive ideas to not come in so far as tariff is concerned, we will actually be paving the way for a very prolonged level battle in the courts. We have already seen that because of the unthinking way in which the whole telecom sector was opened up, the never-ending battles in the courts have started between the private companies and the DOT. We have seen that also. I can say that with a sense of certainty that the whole project has failed. People have been putting various questions in that regard. The total number of circles is twenty. In respect of how many circles, have you been able to issue licences? The LOIs have been issued in respest of eight circles. But to my knowledge, only two LOI-holders have paid the licence fee, or maybe, one LOI-holder has paid the licence fee. The second LOI-holder may be on the threshold. But the point is, the National Telecom Policy already stands defeated because of the way in which the whole tender process had gone on, and because of the way in which the licence fee had gone up, the whole project has become unviable. While Parliament is empowering the Government with the Statutory Telecom Regulatory Authority, it is high time to ensure that we did not stand on ego that we will go ahead with the National Telecom Policy. There ^are amendments of a very serious nature, there are modifications of a very serious nature which have to be brought about in the whole framework of the National Telecom Policy because the essential pillar of that policy was the participation of the private sector. But the instruments that were chosen to ensure the participation of the private sector are notforthcoming. Sir, the telecom sector and the requirements of the telecom sector in this country aie too serious an affair to be left alone, to the whims and fancies of the private sector. Therefore, within the framework of the National Telecom Policy, there should be ideals, there should be a vision that if that participation is not forthcoming within the resources and within the possibilities available to the Government, to the people of the country, what can we do in furthering the cause of the telecom sector in this country? With these submissions, I broadly support the Bill. But I will commend some of the ideas that are there, either through an amendment or

through a subsequent subordinate legislation. The Government can incorporate these concepts in the Bill.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): The time left with the Congress party is twenty minutes. There are two speakers. Therefore, Mr. Mool Chand Meena, you confine yourself to the subject. Don't go to Rajasthan *(Interruptions)* When he speaks, he goes to Rajasthan. I told him not to go to Rajasthan.

श्री मूलचन्द मीणा(राजस्थान): उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय,भारतीय दूरसंचार विनियामक प्राधिकरण विधेयक,1997 पर चर्चा हो रही है । दूरसंचार के लिए यह विधेयक देरी ही सही,पर मंत्री जी जो लाए हैं,इसके पीछे एक ही भावना है कि उपभोक्ताओं के हितों की रक्षा हो सकें । मंत्री जी ने अपने भाषण में कहा था कि टेलीकाम का कामकाज सुचारू रूप से नहीं चल पा रहा है,इसमें कई व्यवधान पैदा हुए है,इसलिए उन सारी बुराइयों को दूर करने के लिए हम इस बिल को लाए है । आज जब हम देश को उदारीकरण और गैर-सरकारीकरण की और ले जा रहे हैं तो यह जरूरी हो जाता है कि टेलीकाम के क्षेत्र में भी हम उपभोक्ताओं के हितों की रक्षा के लिए कुछ कठोर कानून बनायें,जिससे उपभोक्ताओं की रक्षा हो सकें ।

तो यह बहुत जरूरी है । आपने इसको डिले किया,थोड़ी देरी की,इसका खामियाज़ा अब तक लोगां को उठाना पढ़ रहा है । फिर भी आप इसको लाए,मुझे नहीं लगता कि सदन में कोई इसका विरोध करेगा । इस बिल को सभी सपोर्ट करते हैं लेकिन अब इस प्राधिकरण के गठन में यहां कुछ प्रश्न उठते हैं ।प्राधिकरण के गठन के लिए इय चेयरमैन सुप्रीम कोर्ट का सेवारत या रिटायर्ड न्यायाधीश होगा और दो से छः मैम्बर इसके सदस्य होंगे । इसमें आपको यह कर देना चाहिए कि इन सदस्यों में एक सदस्य टेलीकॉम डिपार्टमेंट का प्रतिनिधि अवश्य होगा । इसमें आपने यह निश्चिम नहीं किया है । आप इसको सुनिश्चित करे क्योंकि टेलीकॉम से संबंधित जो उपभोक्ता की शिकायतें होंगी,जो शिकायतें प्रदाता,जो सेवा देता है उसके बीच की शिकायतें होगी उसके बारे में जानकारी रखने वाला टेलीकॉम डिपार्टमेंट का अधिकारी होता है,वह जानता है,इसलिए वह टेक्रीकल आदमी होना चाहिये । यह आपको सुनिश्चित कर देना चाहिये कि इस डिपार्टमेंट का एक आदमी उसमें मैंबर होगा जो हाइवेस्ट टेक्रीकल अधिकारी होगा,उसको ज्ञान होगा । उसकी आप डेफिनिट कर दें । यह आपने नहीं किया हैं । दूसरा जनता के हितों के लिए जो शिकायतों को जानता है,उसका प्रतिनिधि भी इसमें हो । एक जनप्रतिनिधि होना चाहिये जो जनता के हितों की रक्षा के लिए अधिकृत हैं । ऐसा कोई जन प्रतिनिधि इसमें सदस्य अवश्य रखा जाता तो जनता को अच्छा विश्वास होता इस बात का कि हमारे हितों की रक्षा हो सकेगी,अपने हितों की सपोर्ट उसको मिल सकेगी उस प्रतिनिधि के माध्यम से । इसके अन्दर आपने आई.ए.एस.अधिकारियों और न्यायाधीश को रखा है । आप जानते हैं कि यह किस तरह का न्याय करते हैं,किस तरह से आई ए.एस.अधिकारी काम करते हैं । इस देश के अन्दर लोकतंत्र हैं,हमने लोकतंत्र की स्थापना की है,इसलिए इसके अंदर एक या दो जनपतिनिधि अवश्य लिये जाने चाहिये । इसके गठन के बाद मैं नहीं समझता कि यह एक स्वंतत्र अथारिटी बनेगी,आपका इस पर क्या अधिकार रहेगा,क्या संसद् किस प्रकार से अपना नियंत्रण कर पाएगी,यह आप स्पष्ट करें ।

इस विधेयक को लाने के पीछे टेलीफोन से संबंधित जो उपभोक्ताओं की शिकायतें है,उनको दूर करने का प्रयोजन आपका है । अब तक स्थिति यह रही है कि इसको सरहारी क्षेत्र में रखा गया है । सरकारी क्षेत्र में टेलीफोन उपभोक्ताओं के लिए आप टेलीफोन देते हैं लेकिन उपभोक्ताओं को उसको उपयोग करने के बारे में आपने नहीं सोचा । आज गांवों के अन्दर आपने टेलीफोन लगा दिये है,गांव-गांव में टेलीफोन लगाए हैं लेकिन टेलीफोन लगाने के बाद उनकी कोई सुध नहीं ली गई । आपने उपभोक्ता और सेवा प्रदाता के बीच निपटारे के लिए इस प्राधिकरण में एक न्यापीठ बनने की बात की है । न्ययपीठ जल्दी फैसला करे,इसके लिए आपने न्यायपीठ में दो सदस्य रखे हैं । मुझे लगता है कि आज के इस युग में अभी आपने पिछले दिनों यू.पी.विधान सभा के संबंध में देखा कि दोनों न्यायाधीशों ने अलग अलप फैसला दिया (**व्यवधान**) ठीक है,तीसरा रखेंगे । इससे न्याय करने में देरी न हो.इसमें आप तीन सदस्य रखें जिससे उपभोक्ताओं को न्याय मिलने में सरलता हो,शीघ्र न्याय मिले और सुलभ न्याय मिले । यह मैं आपसे निवेदन करना चाह रहा था । साथ ही इस प्राधिकरण के जो फैसले होंगे उच्च न्यायालय के द्वारा सुने जा सकेंगे । लेकिन मंत्री जी आप यह सेंटर में प्राधिकरण बनाना चाहते हैं । आप स्टेटों में बनाइये,डिस्ट्रिक्ट लेवल पर बनाइये क्योंकि जो उपभोक्ता

डिस्ट्रिक्ट लेवल पर रहता है,वह सुप्रीम कोर्ट या हाई कोर्ट में जो फैसल होंगे उनके विरूद्व अपील करने के लिए नहीं आ सकता है । इसलिए उनको सरल सुलभ न्याय देने के लिए यदि स्टेट या डिस्ट्रिक्ट लेविल पर कुछ होगा जिससे उनकी शिकायतें सुनी जा सकेगी तो वास्तविक रूप से उनको न्याय मिल सकेगा और उनको न्याय के लिए इतना पैसा नहीं खर्च करना पड़ेगा । उच्चतम न्यायालय में आज जाते हैं तो वकील की जरूरत पड़ती हैं । वकील भी 10-10,15-15 हजार रूपए लेते हैं । उपभोक्ताओं के बिलों का जितना झगड़ा नहीं होता उससे ज्यादा तो वकील मांग लेते है तो फिर न्याय कैसे मिलेगा । इसकी ओर आपको देखना पड़ेगा कि कैसे नीचे के उपभोक्ता के स्तर पर उसको लाभ मिल सके ।

स्टैडिंग कमेटी की रिपोर्ट के बारे में कई वक्ताओं ने चर्चा की है । स्टैडिंग कमेटी ने अपनी रिपोर्ट दी हैं । लेकिन उन्होंने जो सिफारिश की है उन पूरी सिफारिशों को लागू न करने और इस प्राधिकरण में नही लाने के क्या क्या कारण रहे हैं यह आप स्पष्ट करें कि इसलिए हमने इन सिफारिशों को पूरी तरह से नहीं लिया है और कुछ सिफारिशों को लिया है । उसके मूल कारणों को बताएं जिससे हमें जानकारी मिल सके कि किस तरीके से आपने उपभोक्ता के हित से संबंधित जो सिफारिशें थीं उनको छोड़ दिया । किस प्रकार से सारी सिफारिशों को लागू कर पाएंगे,यह भी यहां स्पष्ट करें जिससे सारी सिफारिशें लागू हो जाएं,जो कमेटी ने दी है । दूसरा आपने इस प्राधिकरण को बनाने के पहले या पार्लियामेंट की कमेटी की जो सिफारिशें हैं उससे पहले विभिन्न बुद्विजीवियों,उपभोक्ताओं के जो संघ है,जो ऐसे विचारों की संस्थाएं है क्या उनसे भी आपने राय ली है या उनकी भी कोई सिफारिशें आई है जिससे कि उपभोक्ताओं को लाभ मिल सके । ऐसी कोई सिफारिशें उनसे ली है तो वे भी बताएं कि विभिन्न संस्थाओं से ऐसी सिफारिशें आई हैं जिनको इसके माध्यम से इसमें रखा गया है ।

(समय की घंटी)

माननीय सदन के सदस्य श्री जार्ज फर्नाडीज सेल्यूलर टेलीफोन के बारे में कह रहे थे । सामान्य उपभोक्ता का तो सेल्यूलर टेलीफोन से काम नहीं पड़ता है । लेकिन इस पर कंट्रोल करने की बहुत आवश्यकता है । इस देश में आतंकवाद है । इस देश के अंदर असामाजिक लोग हैं । सेल्यूलर टेलीफोन से अपनी कार्य करने की जो उनकी प्रणाली है वह सरल हो गयी है चाहे वी चीटिंग करते हों चाहे डकैती करते हों,चाहे चोरी करते हों,चाहे अपराध करते हो चाहे बम रखते हो । यह सब सुलभ हो गया है सेल्यूलर टेलीफोन से । ऐ दूसरे से कम्युनिकेशन की जो संचार की व्यवस्था है वह बहुत सरल हो गयी है । एक दूसरे को इत्तिला कर सकते हैं । कोई भी बम रखने की बात है तो दूसरे को इत्तिला कर सकते है कि आप यहां से दूर हो जाएं यहां पर बम रख दिया है । इस प्रकार की उनको सरलता हो गयी है । इस पर कंट्रोल करें । आप कह भी रहे थे कि इसको कंट्रोल करेंगे । आप प्राधिकरण के अंदर ही दे देते इसको अधिकार कि इस प्रकार की गतिविधियों में यदि विभिन्न प्रकार की कंपनिया जो सेल्यूलर टेलीफोन में काम कर रही है उनके टेलीफोन काम में आते रहे तो यह प्राधिकरण उन पर प्रतिबंध लगा सकता है,उनको रोक सकता है या टेप कर सकता है । इसलिए इस विधेयक के लाने से उपभोक्ता को लाभ हो होगा ही । उपसभाध्यक्ष जी आपने मुझे समय दिया इसके लिए मैं आपका बहुत बहुत धन्यवाद करता हूं ।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. NARYANASAMY): Shri T.M. Venkatachalam. The time allocated to your party is eight minutes. Are you speaking in Tamil?

*SHRI T.M. VENKATACHALAM (Tamil Nadu): Yes, Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity. I rise to speak on the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Bill on behalf of AIADMK.

Though Telecommunications network has been expanded widely, still it is inadequate to meet the requirements of the day. In some foreign countries, the telecommunication network has been taken to the nook and corner of the country using modern equipments. In the United States there are 54 telephones for 100 people on an average. In Japan there are 44 telephones for 100 people. But in India we have a poor ratio of 8 telephones per 100 people. This situation must change. Today, we are in an age where telephone has become necessary in every day life. In industries, hospitals and in every walk of life, telephone has become inevitable. So, I appeal to the Hon'ble Communications Minister to see that telephone network is expanded to meet the demand.

*English translation of the Original sppech delivered in Tamil.

When we demand telephone connection, the department people say that required equipments are not available. Even with the entry of private sector and changes in telecom policy, no perceptible change has taken place as regards telephone conections. I hope this Bill will help solve the problems faced by people to some extent. The policy of the Government is to connect all the villages of the country through telephone network. But the fact is that, even in villages where telephones are provided, they do not work. They are out of order most of the time.

Sir, when we visit the villages, people come and complain that for the last 10 days, 15 days the telephones have not been working. In some places telephones have not been working for months. For example, there is a telephone in my own village in Dharmapuri district of Tamil Nadu. But it doesn't work for months together. I had complained to the officials and asked them to make the telephone work at the earliest. Three months have passed still it is out of order.

There is no use giving telephone connection to villages. You have to see that telephone work all through. They should not be installed like show-piece.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. NARAYANSAMY): You should ask the Minister whether the Government will provide working telephones to the rural areas through this Bill.

THE T.M. VENKATACHALAM: That is what I am exactly asking. Sir, as you said ...*(Interruption)*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): Mr Vayalar Ravi, please do not interrupt when a Hon'ble Member is speaking.

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: I am not able to follow. What ..can I do? *(Interruption)*

SHRI T. M. VENKATACHALAM: Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, when the Government announces schemes and projects, they look very attractive. But when it comes to execution what happens? In my own case, I have been sanctioned a telephone connection. But telephone has not been installed. The telephone cable is wound up and tied to the window. The telephone department people say they are short of equipments for installation. I don't know what happened? Whether the officials have misappropriated the funds provided for that? I don't know what is happening. But in the telephone bill all the charges are reflected without fail.

Sir, for monitoring the function of the telephone departments, the Hon'ble Minister appoints advisory committees at the state and district levels. These committees can play a vital role in redressing the grievances of the people. But in Tamil NaJu, I learnt that in many district advisory committees are yet to be set up. So, people in Tamil Nadu, the telephone users in Tamil Nadu, are not able to take up their complaints. I appeal to Hon'ble Minister to constitute these committees and appoint people recommended by us as members of those Committees.

Sir, it is said that this Bill will improve the telephone network like that in foreign countries. This is what we want and the people want. People expect a lot from this Government. I am hopeful this Bill will provide them better telecommunication facilities. With these words, I support the Bill.

श्री ईश दत्त यादव(उत्तर प्रदेश)**:** मान्यवर उपसभाध्यक्ष जी,संचार मंत्री ने जिस कानून को बनाने के लिए यह प्रस्ताव किया है,मैं इस का ह्रदय से समर्थन करता हूं

मान्यवर,टेलीकॉम रेगुलेटरी अथॉरिटी ऑफ इंडिया बन जाने के बाद दूरसंचार सेवा में काफी सुधार होगा,ऐसा मेरा विश्वास है ।लेकिन सब कुछ इच्छा शक्ति पर निर्भर करता है । अगर सरकार में इच्छा शक्ति नहीं है तो किसी सुधार की अपेक्षा में नहीं कर सकता और बिना इस अथॉरिटी के बने हुए भी दूरसंचार सेवाओं में सुधार किया जा सकता है । मान्यवर,हमारे संचार मंत्री जी यद्यपि यहां नए संचार मंत्री है,लेकिन उत्तर प्रदेश में कई विभागों में

वे मंत्री रह चुके हैं और अनुभवी हैं । मैं उन्हें धन्यवाद दूंगा और प्रशंसा करूगा कि यहां आने के बाद उन्होंने देश की संचार सेवाओं में काफी सुधार किया है,हालांकि जितना सुधार संचार सेवाओं में,टेलीफोन सेवाओं में होना चाहिए वह नहीं हुआ है और आज भी इस तरह की शिकायतें प्राय: मिल रही है कि टेलीफोन खराब है । मान्यवर,गांवों में जो टेलीफोन लगाए गए है,वह खराब रहते हैं । एम.ए.आर.आर.योजना के अंतर्गत जो टेलीफोन लगे हैं,वह तो मैं समझता हूं कि देश में 90 प्रतिशत खराब चल रहे हैं । उन के बारे में मालूम करने पर पता चलता है कि इन का कोई मैकेनिक नहीं मिलता है या इन के पार्टस नहीं मिलते हैं,इसलिए इन को सही नहीं किया जा सकता है । यद्यपि संचार मंत्री ने प्रयास किया है,सुधार बहुत हुआ है और हमारे प्रदेश में तो बहुत हो गया है । मैं पक्षपात का आरोप नहीं लगाऊंगा । यह जब लखनऊ पहुंच जाते हैं तो सुधार हो जाता है । मैं चाहूंगा कि ये पूरे देश का दौरा करें ताकि पूरे देश की संचार व्यवस्था सुधर जाए ।

श्री नीलोत्पल बसु: सिर्फ लखनऊ में सुधार हुआ है ।

श्री ईश दत्त यादव: लखनऊ में हीं नहीं,जहां ये चले जाएंगे,वहां सुधार हो जाएगा ।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): The Minister should not concentrate on UP alone.

श्री ईश दत्त यादव: मान्यवर,मैं ने तो शुरू में ही निवेदन किया कि जैसे लखनऊ जाने के बाद सुधार हो गया वैसे ये देश के अन्य भागों में जाएं,...(**व्यवधान**)...

श्री नीलोत्पल बसु: हम उन को कलकत्ता ले जाना चाहते हैं,लेकिन आप इंकार कर रहे हैं ।

श्री ईश दत्त यादव : वहां भी सुधार हो जाएगा ।

मान्यवर,मैं एक समस्या की ओर मंत्री जी का ध्यान दिलाना चाहता हूं कि एक तो टैक्रीकल फाल्ट हो जाता है,जैसे केबल खराब है या हाई पार्ट खराब है,लेकिन इस में मुझे आदमी भी खबरा नजर आते हैं । टेलीफोन विभाग में जो लोग काम करते हैं,वह लोग खराब नहीं हो तो लापरवाह जरूर है । निग्रलजेंट जरूर है । अब मैं अपना एक दिन का उदाहरण दूं,पिछले हफ्ते मैं दिल्ली से अपने घर आजमगढ़ फोन कर रहा था । वहां का टेलीफोन सही और यहां का भी टेलीफोन सही,लेकिन बार बार टेप का आता था कि प्लीज चेक द नंबर यू हैव डायल्ड मुझे थोड़ी देर तक भ्रम रहा कि कहीं में अपने घर का नंबर तो नहीं भूल गया । परेशान रहा । फिर नंबर डायल किया और फिर वहीं आया कि प्लीज चेक द नंबर यू हैव डायल्ड । फिर हमने विभाग को टेलीफोन किया तो पता चला कि वह गलत टेप लग गया था वहां पर,जो जवाब देता था टेप वह टेप गलत लग गया था,जो नहीं लगना चाहिए था । जब उसको हटाया तो विद इन नो सैकेण्ड हमारा टेलीफोन मिल गया ।

श्री बेनी प्रसाद वर्मा: क्षमा मांगा आपसे?

श्री ईश दत्त यादव: क्षमा तो जरूर मांगा,लेकिन मैं यह चाहूंगा माननीय मंत्री जी,कि संचार सेवाओं में टैक्रीक का,पार्टस का या न्यू टैक्रोलोजी का जो आप काम करते हैं वह तो करिए,थोड़ा अपने विभाग को भी आपको सख्त करना पड़ेगा । मान्यवर,आपके माध्यम से मैं यह कहूंगा कि थोड़ा इस विभाग को गरम करना पड़ेगा । आप देखिए,पहले दिल्ली में,कलकत्ता में,मुम्बई में 197 नंबर पर कोई भी नंबर पूछिए तो विदइन नो सैकेंड जवाब आ जाता था और अब दिल्ली में ही यह प्रोब्लम हो रही है कि 197 आप प्रयास करते रहिए,नो रेप्लाई मिलता है,अगर रेप्लाई मिला भी तो गलत नंबर बता दिया और हम जहां के रहने वाले हैं,हमारे छोटे जिलों में वहां इन्क्वायरी है,टेलीफोन है,लेकिन वहां आदमी ही नहीं मिलता जो इन्क्वायरी पर बैठता है । हम रिग करते रहेंगे,कोई जवाब देने वाला नहीं होता,जो हमको नंबर बता सके । इसलिए मैं कह रहा हूं कि थोड़ा सा आप अपने विभाग को गरम करिए तभी इसमें आपको कामयाबी होगी ।

मान्यवर,यह जो कानून बन रहा है,इसका मैं समर्थन करता हूं । कानून तो बहुत अच्छा है,लेकिन मुझे कल भी थोड़ी आपत्ति हुई थी जब पर्यावरण कानून पर बोल रहा था और आज भी वह आपत्ति है कि इसमें जो अथोरिटी बन रही है उसमें फिर वही सुप्रीम कोर्ट के रिटायर्ड जज या हाईकोर्ट के रिटायर्ड जज की बात है । कल पर्यावरण कानून जो पास हुआ,उसमें भी सुप्रीमकोर्ट के रिटायर्ड जज या हाईकोर्ट के रिटायर्ड जज का था । अभी कृषि मंत्री जी पेश करेंगे यह एक्वाकल्चर वाला कोई विधेयक,जल कृषि प्राधिकरण विधेयक,इसमें भी हाईकोर्ट के रिटायर्ड जज का होगा,इसमें भी जो मेम्बर होगा वह रिटायर्ड सेक्रेटरी होगा किसी डिपार्टमेंट का ओर कल जो हमने कानून पास किया उसमें भी रिटायर्ड सेक्रेटरी होगा ।

मान्यवर,मैं जुडीशियरी के प्रति,जज के प्रति बहुत सम्मान रखता हूं,लेकिन क्या यह बेकार लोगों की भर्ती का दफ्तर खोला जा रहा है ? जो रिटायर हो गया है,

रिटायर्ड लोगां को फिर से काम दिया जा रहा है क्या ? देश में 12 करोड़ एजुकेटेड लोग पड़े हुए है,जिनके रोजगार दफ्तरों में नाम दर्ज हैं,इनमें इंजीनियर है,वैज्ञानिक हैं,डाक्टर है,टेलीफोन सेवाओं के विशेषज्ञ भी होंगे । आप टेलीफोन विभाग के जो बहुत विशेषज्ञ है और जो रिटायर्ड हैं,उनको अथोरिटी का चेयरमेन क्यों नहीं बनाते हैं ? जज साहब क्या जानेंगे इसके बारे में ? मैंने जैसा पहले ही कहा,जज के प्रति,न्यायालय के प्रति मेरे हृदय में बहुत ही सम्मान है,मैं सम्मान करता हूं उनका,मैं कहीं विरोध नहीं करता हूं,लेकिन जो अथोरिटी भारत सरकार बना रही है,एक कल बनाई और दो आज बना रहे हैं,सब में सुप्रीम कोर्ट के रिटायर्ड जज होंगे या हाईकोर्ट के रिटायर्ड जज होंगे और भारत सरकार के रिटायर्ड सेक्रेटरी होंगे । क्या यह रिटायर्ड लोगों का कोई दफ्तर बन रहा है ? जैसा मुझे लगता है या जनता में संदेश जा रहा है कि यह अथोरिटी नहीं बन रही है बल्कि लोगों की भरती के लिए,इनके भरण-पोषण के लिए यह अथोरिटी बन रही है । मान्यवर,इस पर संचार मंत्री जी ध्यान देंगे । अभी तो हम इसका समर्थन कर रहे है,हम आपकी पार्टी के है,सत्ता पक्ष के है,दिल से समर्थन कर रहे हैं,लेकिन आगे चलकर आप इस पर विचार करिएगा इसमें परिवर्तन के लिए ।

उपसभाध्यक्ष(श्री वी.नाराणसामी): आप भी रूलिंग पार्टी से हैं ।

श्री ईश दत्त यादव: जी हां। वह हमारे लीडर हैं ।

उपसभाध्यक्ष(श्री वी.नारायणसामी): आप कनक्लयूड करें । आपका टाइम 4 मिनट था,आप 8 मिनट बोल चुके हैं ।

श्री ईश दत्त यादव: सर,मैं आपकी आज्ञा का पालन कर रहा हूं । एक बात कहकर मैं अपनी बात खतम करूंगा कि कम्युनिकेशन की हमारी स्टेंडिंग कमेटी है । मैं भी सौभाग्य से उसका सदस्य था आपके इस बिल को स्टेंडिंग कमेटी ने बहुत थारोली एग्ज़ामिन किया और कुछ रिकमेंडेशन्स दीं । मैं चाहता था कि कमेटी की जो संस्तुतियां है,उन पर भी विचार किया जाता,उनका समावेश भी इसमें किया जाता अभी कल-परसों एक बहस हो गई थी कि यह एडवाइज़री बाडी है या क्या है,इसकी रिकमेंडेशन्स को माना जाए या नहीं ? मैं इस बहस में नहीं जाना चाहता,लेकिन इतना जरूर कहना चाहता हूं कि दोनों सदनों के माननीय सदस्यों की एक स्टेंडिंग कमेटी है,उसने अपनी संस्तुतियां दी है,तो उन सस्तुतियों का भी इस बिल में समावेश कर देना चाहिए था । आपने नहीं किया,कोई बात नहीं,मगर मैं पुनः अनुरोध करूंगा माननीय मंत्री जी से इसके लिए इस बिल को पास कराना बहुत जरूरी हो गया था,जल्दी भी थी ताकि संचार सेवाओं में सुधार हो सके,देश प्रगति कर सके,मान्यवर,इन टेलीफोन सेवाओं के कारण आज दुनिया एक जगह हो गई है,टेलीफोन की वजह से दूरी खत्म हो गई है और खर्चा भी बहुत कम हो गया है,अगर अमेरिका जाएं तो लाखो डालर का खर्च आएगा,लेकिन अगर टेलीफोन करें तो केवल 150 रूपए में अमेरिका बात हो सकती है । तो आज इस टेलीफोन की वजह से दुनिया छोटी हो गई है,खर्चा कम हो गया है और समय बच रहा है और ये सारी सुविधाएं मिल रही हैं ।

इसलिए ,मैं अंत में माननीय मंत्री जी का धन्यवाद देना चाहूंगा इस बिल को लाने के लिए और उनसे पुन अनुरोध करूंगा कि आप फिर से गंभीरता से इस पर विचार करें और इसमें जो अपेक्षित संशोधन है,उनको आगे चलकर आप प्रस्तुत करें,बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद ।

[THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI AIJT P.K. JOGI): *in the Chair]*

SHRI BRAHMAKUMAR BHATT (Gujarat): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, so fai as the basic idea behind the Bill *h* concerned, there cannot be two opinions on that. The idea is to improve the basic needs of the consumer and, therefore the Bill is welcome. But I really don't understand what is mentioned in the Statement of Objects and Reasons. J: says and I quote:

> ....In the multi-operator situation, arising out of the openig of basic as well as value-added services in which private operators will be competing with the Government operators, there is a pressing need for an independent telecom regulatory authority for regulation of telecom services..."

I will be very happy if it is possible. Basically I am not for private opearators Even if the private airlines are there, the Indian Airlines is doing better service, better than the private airliners. But how do these Government operators compete with the private operators? What is the position? Sir, I know that people working

in the Telephone department are there at one place for 15-25 years. They are not transferred from one place to another. They keep very good, close contacts with all people, business people, industry people, etc There are advertisements in the Press which say that if anybody wants a telephone or wants to transfer his or her telephone, contact on this number. The advertisements go on like that. These advertisements do appear in the Press. Who is doing it? The officers of the Department arc doing this. I will be very happy if they can compete with the private operators. But so far as the present position is concerned, people have no faith in the Telephone Department.

Sir, recently I received a telephone bill which metered some ISD calls and charged for them. They say that I made some calls to some islands in America. I don't know even the names of those islands. I have not seen them on the world map. The bill says that I phoned to Nayagara, Torrento, etc. Immediately 1 wrote a letter. On that day, I was not well and I was not even carrying my cordless phone. I reached in this House a little late also. But the Telephone Department says that 1 made calls to some islands in America or somewhere in the world. 1 don't even know where these islands and others places are. You will be pleased to know one thing. It has appeared in the Press. It appeared in the 'Gujarat Samachar' and the 'Sandesh' which are available in the Library here. A private detective caught red-handed an employee of the telephone department connecting telephone lines on the road and giving it to some private person for some money. The private detective arrested these two persons. Theye were taken to the Police. The Police has taken them on remand and has started the prosecution. So, this is happening. It is wrong to say that the telephone department people are the best in the world and that they do not do this mischief. They were caught redhanded by this private detective in broad daylingt.

One Mr. Nazir Shaikh, whosd photograph has appeared in the Gujarat Samachar, has admitted it.

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: This is a very serious matter and it should be looked into.

डा.(श्रीमती) उर्मिलाबेन चिमनभाई पटेल (**गुजरात**): अहमदाबाद,बंबई और सब बड़े-बड़े सिटीज् में जिस दिन कर्मचारियों की छुट्टी होती है,100-100 रूपए में इंटरनेशनल काल घंटे-घंटे तक होती रहती हैं । यह प्राइवेटली होता है ।

SHRI BRAHMAKUMAR BHATT: So, Sir, the photograph of the person, his name and everything else has appeared in the newspapers. If with such a state of affairs, the telephone department is going to compete, I do not know how they are going to compete with these types of persons. Therefore, the basic requirement is to improve our own structure, our own department and to transfer those people who have been there for the last 15-20 years and to see to it that good and energetic persons arc posted to those places

I here 1:, one other which I want to submit, and the lion. Minister may or may not agree. Out of these six members, why can't there be two non-official members? In my view, they could even be from the Parliament. The required qualification given here is spcial knowledge and professional experience in the fields of industry, finance, accountacy, law, management and consumer affairs. Take accountancy and I think Mr. Chaturvcdi is the best of men who know accountancy. So, there should be two non-official members. Mr. Vice-Chairman, if you had continued in the Government service as an IAS officer, you might have been...

Mr. Vice-Chairman is not listening to me. I am referring to you, Sir. Had you continued, you might have been a person capable of being appointed here.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI): Please continue. I am all ears,-

SHRI BRAHMAKUMAR BHATT: So, Sir, if these two non-official members are there, they will take care of the interests of consumers and they will see to it that the things are in order.

Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, there are so many complaints—complaints against the Department, complaints against the people in the Department, complaints about non-functioning,.of telephones, etc. All these complaints should be filed before this Authority and this Authority should be empowered to hear the complaints of the consu'mers. That should also be added here.

There is one other thing. The hon. Minister said that the best quality of service will be available at a reasonable price. I don't know the meaning of reasonable price. You might have read in the newspapers that recently in America they have reduced the ISD rates by 25%. And we have arranged it, even in the evening or at night, in such a fashion that the rates become higher indirectly. If I have to make a call to Ahmedabad, I have to try it only at a particular time so that it is cheaper. So, how will it now become reasonable, I do not understand. The hon. Minister may please let us know that his idea of reasonableness of price is.

So, I would like to conclude, Sir, with the hope that our own Department may be restructured and improved and people may have faith. Sir, they don't have any faith now. If you ring up the Department, they don't even come on the phone. When are make a call, the operator asks you, "Who are you?" I say, "I am so and so. I am an MP." Then she will start some music saying that she will connect me to the officer but after four or five seconds, she will come back and say, "The officer is not in his chamber. He has gone somewhere".

3.00 P.M.

It is just that the officer may be in his chamber, very likely but is not coming on the telephone. This is the position of our Department. The hon. Minister who is a socialist by ideology will see to it that it least our own Department is improved and it can really compete with these people. That is what I hope.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI AJIT P.K. JOGI): Shrimati Renuka Chouwdhury.

डा.(श्रीमती) उर्मिला बेन चिमनभाई पटेल: रेणुका बहिन,मुझे स्पीच नहीं करना है एक बात ध्यान में लानी है । कुछ सिटीज में ऐसा भी होता है और चलता है कि टेलीकम्युनिकेशन के लोकल लेविल पर जो आफिसर्स व इंचार्ज होते हैं उनका महीना,हफ्ता तय किया जाता है । अगर यह रकम उनको मिल जाती है तो किसी और का टेलीफोन का कनेक्शन लगाकर उनका अगर 50 हजार का महीने का बिल होता है तो 5 हजार में तय हो जाता है । यह भी चलता है । उसकी मिनिस्टर जांच करवाएं तो कई सिटीज में यह इररेग्यूलर्टिज आपको मिलेगी ।... *(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOW-DHURY (Andhra Pradesh): May I have your attention, please? Sir, I welcome this Bill because it is going to block or seal all the porosities in various Bills that we have brought forward earlier. One, of course, goes forward that these are brought with the best of intentions so that we can see. Many of my hon. colleagues have held out at great length and great detail over various aspects, but there is only one point which I want to ensure—I have studied it and I find in this we have not provided for it—that should we need technical evaluation of a new product, and we don't have the competence or the expertise to evaluate this—that this Regulatory Authority will have the authority to employ or hire expertise from other parts of the world. Why I am saying this is the DOT, on record admitted before one of the investigative bodies of our country, and I quote: "At the time of invitation of tenders and placing an initial order, the Department of Telecommunications was not quite aware of the relative merits and demerits of the two versions. Therefore, placed the order for both systems." This is an amazing lacuna which they are taking

shelter behind. There is nothing wrong in not knowing or not having the expertise because this is virtually virgin territory that we are exploring in India. We also deal with huge numbers, given our size, and we have also run huge risks because of this. So, I want to ensure that we have the authority to hire expertise, if we don't have it with ourselves.

Sir, this is what happened even with Enron. We did not have the expertise to evaluate a project like Enron and yet we did not seek advice or we did not employ advice from other nations. So, I just wanted to give this word of caution to the hon. Minister that we must be able to empower this autonomous body because we are giving it so many teeth. So, let us apply our mind in totality and be prepared. It is a state of preparedness that we are going up for. We can never ever take shelter because what I quoted is very damaging and this is in black and white in front of an investigating authority and they cannot abdicate their responsibility and they maynot be accused of collusion with whatever happened by giving the nation an answer like this. So, this is all that I wanted to draw the attention to. Thank you very much.

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA (West Bengal): Sir, this is not the time to speak on policies because we are at the starting point. At a different point of time, we had made it clear that intrusion of private telecommunication companies in this sensitive sector was going to do more damage than bringing about any benefit. That is why this is not the time to speak on that. Sir, my submission is that there are likely to be many companies operating in a single field. There will be competition among the private parties; there will be a collective attempt on the part of the private companies to run down the public sector. Sir as we have seen in our country, there has always been an attempt by the private companies to make profit or take advantage at the cost of the public sector. There are people in the public sector who in exchange for money or in exchange for personal benefits would always be ready to do service to their masters who are at the helm of affairs of the private companies. That is the inherent danger. This multiplicity of agencies and manifold character of the agencies are the real issues, are the real problems which this Authority must address itself to. While addressing this main issue, do you thing that the Authority which this particular Bill envisages to set up will be that competent, will be that powerful, will be that effective in ensuring that no delinquency takes place? That is the main issue. This experience will be new for us; this experience will be new for the country; this experience will be new for the Authority also. Therefore, I only seek one assurance from the hon. Minister. What are the safeguards? We know how the foreign banks are working in the country. **We** have seen how foreign multinational companies have been operating in many other Asian countries. We know that in quest of profit, rules of the country have no value to them. They have their own rules; they have their own moral; they have their own people; they have their own way of operating. We understand foreign private sector and the Indian private sector and we have seen them in their true colours. We have understood it; we have seen it. Therefore, taking into consideration the operation of the foreign banks, the foreign multinational companies and the foreign oil companies and in view of the liberalisation be it a reckless liberalisation or be it a regulated liberalisation—the inherent danger in the operation of the multiple agencies is there. Therefore, the Minister who has a commitment to the country, commitment for efficiency and commitment for standard and transparency—he is known for that—it is for him to tell the House as to what is that safeguard. This Authority must be open and be above board. This Committee must have enough technical

knowledge. This Authority must not be made vulnerable to offers of allurement and this Authority must have accountability. Therefore, my second question to the hon. Minister is whether the periodical reports on the working of the Authority will be placed before the Parliament. The Parliament must be entrusted with overseeing its work. Many of my senior colleagues would kindly remember who have been persistently. ... *(Interruptions)...*

SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES: It is a quasi-judicial body. ...*(Interruptions)...*

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: This Authority is being established under an Act of Parliament. ...*(Interruptions)...* So, Annual Reports and Annual Audited Accounts, etc. will come before the Parliament. ... *(Interruptions)...*

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: I am not satisfied with that. ...*(Interruptions)...* I know this so-called statutory safeguard. ...*(Interruptions)...* I know that. ...*(Interruptions)...* I know that the balance-sheets are placed before us. But, I also know that the Parliament was denied the right of looking into the working of the banks when it was called for by the JPC. Hon. Members are sitting over there. I want an assurance from the hon. Minister. Let the Standing Committee on Communications—this is my straight proposal—let the Standing Committee of Parliament on Communications, be given the authority, be given the privilege, be given the right, to closely monitor, supervise, oversee, the work of this particular authority. Other-wise, this is going to be a 'free-for-all'. Once it is a 'free-for'all', there would be hardly any scope for monitoring the work of the Indian and foreign private agencies. *(Interruptions)* I believe in autonomy. But I also believe in the supremacy of the Parliament. That is why I say that there should be a watchdog. No authority should have any absolute power. excepting the judiciary Therefore, Sir this Parliament, through the Standing Committee, must be allowed to colsely monitor—at least, for some time—the work of the authority. Otherwise, the inherent danger in the system is likely to corrode the efficiency and functioning of the authority.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOW-DHURY: I appreciate my colleague's passionate concern for the integrity of our nation. But I do not know whether it is right for us to work on an assumption that there is a bunch of criminals just waiting to exploit this.

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Who said that? ...*(Interruptions)...* I never said 'there is a bunch of criminals' ... *(Interruptions).*

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOW-DHURY: There is no question of being oversmart, Mr. Das Gupta.

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Nobody said that. *(Interruptions)*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI AJIT P.K. JOGI): Mrs. Renuka Chowdhury, please address the Chair.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Sir, my only point is this. On the one hand, we are talking of authonomy and we are blocking the porosity for any misgivings. At the same time, we want another one to ride piggyback on it. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: There is an in-built safeguard.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOW-DHURY: Inherent checks. We have to go on the basis of certain norms. *(Interruptions)*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI AJIT P.K. JOGI): There is no discussion, Mrs. Renuka Chowdhury . and Mr. Curudas Das Gupta.

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: I am not questioning the validity of the argument of the hon. Member. I never said that there is a bunch of criminals. Why should I say that? The question is: There should be a proper monitoring. Proper monitoring does not mean curtailment of the autonomy of the authority. *(Interruptions)* Nor does it presupposes that I question the credibility of the person who would be there to man the authority.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI AJIT P.K. JOGI): Thank you, Mr. Gurudas Das Gupta

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Since he has yielded, I want to...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI AJIT P.K. JOGI): He has finished.

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: The hon. Member's concern is legitimate. The only point is, we can reconcile with the content of the Bill. If there is a provisions for a Consumer Interest Council, of that component, if that mechanism, is built in, along with the auothority, that may take care. This is a multiple-player sector.

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUI" LA: Let there be any mechanism. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: The hon. Member's concern is legitimate. An inbuilt provision is there.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI AJIT P.K. JOGI): Thank you, Mr. Nilotpal Basu. Mr. V.P. Duraisamy.

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: The point is, there should be monitoring for a new experiment to succeed; whatever may be the mechanism.

SHRI V.P. DURAISAMY (Tamil Nadu): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, the setting up of the Telecom Regulatory Authority proves that the United Front Goternment is keen to bring about not only decentralisation... *(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI AJIT P.K. JOGI): Mrs. Renuka Chowdhury and Mr. Gurudas Das Gupta, would you please remain silent? Let us hear Mr. Duraisamy. Both of you have been articulate, but let us hear Mr. Duraisamy.

SHRI V.P. DURAISAMY: This also shows that the United Front Government is keen to protect the consumer interests.

Now, I have certain points to make in regard to this Bill.

Firstly, I refer to Chapter II-clause 3, sub-clause (4). This provids for the setting up of the head office of the authority at New Delhi. Yesterday also, while speaking on the National Environment Appellate Authority Bill, I made this suggestion. 1 spoke against setting up the head office at Delhi. Delhi is already overloaded and it is a highly polluted city. I have seen in the case of two-three amendment Bills the Ministers concerned proposing to set up the head office only at Delhi. I request the Minister kindly to reconsider the location of the Authority Office. It should go to the South, particularly to Chennai. All the Head Offices are situated only in Delhi. Chennai is not as much polluted as is Delhi. You cannot eat the cake and have it too. I appeal to the hon. Minister to reconsider the location of its Head Office.

Now I come to the composition of the Authority. Chapter II, clause 4, subclause (1) provides that the Chairperson shall be a person who is a Judge of the Supreme Court or who is the Chief Justice of a High Court. The Minister has said that the Government wants to take a person from amongst the serving Judges of the Courts. If we get Judges on deputation from the High Courts or the Supreme Court, naturally, it will cause a great inconvenience to the public. Already there are so many vacancies of Judges in all the High Courts. Many lakhs of cases are pending at the District Court level, the Taluk Court level and the High Court level. So, I request the Minister to take an appropriate person, a young man like us directly, not from the High Courts or the Supreme Court.

SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES: He is offering his services.

SHRI V.P. DURAISAMY: Yes, Sir.

It has been proposed that not more than six Members in addition to the Chairman, shall be on the Authority. The requirements of the States in the matter of telecommunication services vary. The requirements in the rural areas are different from those in the urban areas. So, I strongly feel that the Authority should have a representative character. It

would be advisable to have on the Authority at least one Member from each State. This will take care of the regional grievances also. Since the functions of the Authority are very vast and the telecommunication network throughout the country has to be regulated, I think, it would be wise to expand the Authority by giving representation to each State.

It has been said that the Telecom Regulatory Authority would protect the interests of the customers also. I have my own doubt. Consumers' complaints about the telecom services are taken up by the Consumer Court. I do not know whether the Authority will have anything to do with the grievances of the consumers. I want the Minister to clarify this.

With these words, I welceme this Bill.

Thank You.

SHRI GOPALSINH G. SOLANKI (Gujarat): Sir, as I have said, I am not going to take more than four minutes.

I would like to congratulate the Minister for bringing this Bill. Though it has come late, it is for the better. It is going to give very good multifarious services defined in section 2 of the Bill.

At the same time, I would like to comment on two things regarding establishment of the Authority.

It has been said that the Chairperson shall be a person who is or has been a Judge of the Supreme Court or who is or has been the Chief Justice of a High Court. I want to bring another factor in this particular regard. In the following section it has been said that the Authority shall comprise of 6+1=7 Members. I want to draw the atention of the Minister to the fact that it has been provided that a Member shall be a person who has special knowledge of, and professional experience in, telecommunication, industry, finance, accountancy, law, management and consumer affairs. If you have to consider the membership on the basis of expertise, then the number of members should be 8 and not 6. Otherwise, you will have to leave this question to the Authority to decide by itself. That means on this point you will have to compromise.

In the morning we heard from the Prime Minister how the decisions of the Cabinet are being reversed by the bureaucracy as if they are the real rulers. They are handling all these things in such a manner that the post of Chairperson goes to the Chief Justice of a High Court or a Judge of the Supreme Court or to some expert who has served as Additional Secretary or Secretry. It is nothing but a temptation for them to take these up after they retire. It is nothing but a corrupt practice. What would be the reliability of these persons? The age of retirement of the Chief Justice of a High Court or a Judge of the Supreme Court is 65 years. If they are taken in at such an advanced age, how can you expect a good service from them? So, instead of these officers, some young experts in the field must be taken in so that there is some accountability and they perform better.

In Clause 11(2) you have said: "...the rate of a person or a class of persons." What do you mean by that? It is going to creat inequality. Clause 18 provides for jurisdiction for appeal against a particular decision of the Authority. You have appointed a Supreme Court Judge or a High Court Chief Justice as the Chairperson. If a decision is challenged and an appeal is preferred with the High Court, do you think the common man will have a chance of getting justice? There will be no chance because the court which "is going to try that particular appeal will be under the impression of that Judge, who had been a Supreme Court Judge or a High Court Chief Justice.

Clause 29 provides for penalty of one lakh rupees for violation of the direction of the Authority and two lakh rupees for the second offence. I think the hon. Minister knows the limitations under the Criminal Procedure Code, whereby the

fine will not be more than one year's limitation. Beyond that you cannot go in for prosecution.

While Clause 31 prescribes punishment for the Head of the Department, it further says if he proves that the offence was committed without his knowledge, he will be excused. That means you are also providing a way out.

Now, I draw your attention to Clause 4. Every act has to be attributed to some Act. If it is found that the particular act is contrary to law, you have not provided where the action in this regard will be looked into. Will it be looked into by not below a Metropolitan Court or by a Chief Judicial Magistrate's court? Moreover, you have not clarified under which Act you are going to frame the rules.

I feel »this particular Telecom Regulatory Authority of India has got lots of defects and they require drastic amendments.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI AJIT P.K. JOGI): Since the mover of the Resolution, Shri Satish Agarwal is not present in the House and his Resolution is the property of the House, I would put it to vote.

DR. GOPALRAO VITHALRAO PATIL: I do not want to press this Resolution.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI AJIT P.K. JOGI) Are you one of the movers of the Resolution?

DR. GOPALRAO VITHALRAO PATIL: No.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI AJIT P.K. JOGI): Then, only the mover of the Resolution has the right to withdraw. You cannot do it.

The question is:

> "That this House disapproves of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Ordinance, 1997 (No. 11 of 1997) promulgated by the President on the 25th January, 1997."

The motion was negatived.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI AJIT P.K. JOGI): Now, Shri Beni Prasad Verma would reply to the points raised by hon. Members.

संचार मंत्री(श्री बेनी प्रसाद वर्मा): आदरणीय उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय,सब से पहले तो मैं श्री सतीश अग्रवाल,श्री जॉन एफ.फर्नाडिस,डा,गोपालराव बिटठ्लराव पाटिल,श्री नीलोत्पल बसु,श्री मूलचन्द्र मीणा,श्री टी.एम.वेंकटचलम,श्री ईश दत्त यादव,श्री ब्रहाकुमार भट्ट,श्रीमती रेणुका चौधरी,श्री गुरूदास दासगुप्त,श्री दुरैसामी और श्री गोपाल सिंह जी.सोलंकी के प्रति आधार भी व्यक्त करूंगा और इन सब लोगों को अपनी तरफ से धन्यवाद भी दूंगा जिन्होंने इस विधेयक की भावना का पूरी तरह से समर्थन किया है । कुछ आशंकाएं व्यक्त की गई । उन आशंकाओं के बारे में भी हम संक्षिप्त में इतना ही यहां कह सकते हैं कि अभी रूल्ज़ और रेगुलेंशंस बनना बाकी है और उनमें जो यहां पर आशंकाएं व्यक्त की गई है,हमारा प्रयास होगा कि रूल्ज़ में जहां तक उनको समाहित किया जा सके उनको समाहित कर लिया जाए ।यह बहुप्रतीक्षित और डिलेड बिल है । इस विभाग के बारे में काफी विवाद भी रहा 1994 में जब से उदारीकरण की नीति अपनाई गई,पहली बार हम मंत्री हुए और इसी विवाद वाले विभाग को हमको दे दिया गया । हमारा यही प्रयास है कि जनता से सीधा जुड़ा हुआ एक तरह से सेवा संबंधी यह विभाग है,इसमें सुधार हो और इस बिल के उद्देश्य है उनमें भी विश्व स्तर की संचार सुविधाओं को उपलब्ध कराने के उद्देश्य से ही इस प्राधिकरण के गठन को विस्तृत रूप से कहा गया है । हम संक्षेप में इस बात को कहते हैं । अच्छा होता कि प्राइवेटाइज़ेशन के प्रोसैस में जाने के पहले इस तरह की अथोरिटी का गठन कर लिया जाता । इसीलिए हमने इसको डिलेड बिल कहा है । जो दिक्कते कुछ सामने आई और यह विवाद विशेष रूप से विभाग में आया नगर प्राधिकरण का गठन पहले हुआ होता और प्राइवेटाइज़ेशन की पालिसी को एडाप्ट बाद में किया गया होता तो शायद उसको एवोयड किया जा सकता था । हमको स्टैंडिंग कमेटी की रेकमेंडेशन नवंबर में प्राप्त हुई । उसके बाद बुद्विजीवियों से,उद्योग संबंधी लोगों से परामर्श करने के बाद एक कंप्रीहैसिव बिल बनाने की हमने कोशिश की ओर स्टेंडिंग कमेटी की जो 30 सिफारिशें थीं उनमें से करीब-करीब 25 सिफारिशों को हमने मान लिया । हमाने कुछ माननीय सदस्यों ने यहां पर इस बात का विशेष रूप से उल्लेख किया था ....।

हम से स्पष्टीकरण भी चाहा था कि स्टेंडिग कमेटी की

जिन सिफारिशों को नहीं माना गया है,उन को क्यों नहीं माना गया है,मैं सदन के सामने यहां कारण सहित उन का स्पष्ट रूप से उल्लेख करना चाहूंगा जिन 5 सिफारिशों को हम ने नहीं माना हैं ।

उपसभाध्यक्ष जी पहली सिफारिश है चैयरमैन की नियुक्ति की । चैयरमैन के बारे में स्टेंडिंग कमेटी की राय तो वह थी कि चीफ जस्टिम ऑफ हाईकोर्ट,रिटायर्ड या सर्विंग या जस्टिस सुप्रीम कोर्ट,रिटायर्ड और सर्विंग । लेकिन उसके सलेशन के लिए स्टेंडिंग कमेटी ने बोर्ड रिकमंड किया था । इस सलेक्शन बोर्ड के चैयरमेन चीफ जस्टिस ऑफ इंडिया रिकमंड किए गए थे । मेंबर थे स्पीकर लोकसभा,जो इस विभाग के मंत्री हों और लीडर ऑफ द अपोजीशन । अगर लीडर ऑफ द अपोजीशन न हो तो सबसे बड़ी पार्टी के नेता और राज्यसभा के उपसभापति । उस बोर्ड के चैयरमैन होंगे चीफ जस्टिस ऑफ इंडिया ।

महोदय,मैं यहां ज्यादा विस्तार से बात नहीं करूंगा जिस से कदाचित हमारे सभी माननीय सदस्य सहमत होंगे । इस का एक बहुत ही सीमित दायरा रखा गया था चीफ जस्टिस आफ हाई कोर्ट,रिटायर्ड और सर्विंग या जस्टिस सुप्रीम कोर्ट,रिटायर्ड या सर्विंग । अब गवर्नमेंट को हर मामले में बहुत शक की नज़र से नहीं देखा जाना चाहिए । यह सदन और पार्लियामेंट पूरे देश का प्रतिनिधित्व करती है और पार्लियामेंट की मेजोरिटी को गवर्नमेंट रिप्रजेंट करती है । फिर एक दायरा आप ने सीमित कर दिया था कि हम जज को ही अपॉईट कर सकते है । तो महोदय,हम ने सिर्फ इस को गवर्नमेंट के ही अधिकार क्षेत्र में रखा कि गवर्नमेंट ही इस को आप्ईंट करेगी और इस में बोर्ड की कोई जरूरत नहीं है । इसलिए हम ने सिफारिश नंबर-1 को नहीं माना । महोदय,इस से विलम्ब भी होता । हमारे स्पीकर साहब भी उस में बैठते,हमारी राज्यसभा की उपसभापति भी बैठती और आज जो बहस चल रही है उस में यह है कि चीफ जस्टिम ऑफ इंडिया किसी कमेटी में हो तो उन की जो एडवाइस हो वही कांकरेंस मानी जाएं । तो कांट्रेडिक्शंस भी पैदा हो सकते थे और बिना वजह एक बहस चल सकती थीं । इसलिए हम ने राइट गवर्नमेंट के ही रखे,लेकिन हमने मान लिया कि जस्टिस ही इसका चैयरमेन होगा ।

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: There is nothing wrong. The Government cannot delegate powers to the legislature or to the judiciary. It is purely under the Government's control; power. I am glad that you have taken the decision. I support the decision. It is a very correct decision. *(Interruptions).* The Government cannot abdicate its duties.

SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA: Thank you, thank you.

श्रीमान् अध्यक्ष के वेतन-भत्ते के बार में सिफारिश यह भी कि यह वहीं होंगे जोकि सर्वोच्च न्यायालय के न्यायाधीश के होते हैं । हम ने इस में कर दिया हैं कि रूल्स में जैसा प्रोवाइड होगा । लेकिन रूल्स में प्रोवाइड कर रहे हैं कि जो इस समय उन की वहां पर सैलरी हैं । मान्यवर,इस को हम ने एक्ट में नहीं डाला है और इसलिए नहीं डाला है कि इस में कोई कंट्रोवर्सी पैदा हो सकती है ।

श्रीमान् इस तरह से एक सिफाशि थीं कि "प्राधिकरण के सदस्यों की नियुक्ति केन्द्र सरकार द्वारा की जाएगी क्योंकि इस संबंध में अध्यक्ष से सलाह लेने संबंधी सिफारिश को स्वीकार नहीं किया गया हैं ।" स्टेंडिंग कमेटी ने यह सिफारिश की थी कि चैयरमेन की राय से दूसरे मेंबर्स का सलेक्शन किया जाय । हम ने उस को नहीं माना । हम ने कहा कि गवर्नमेंट ही मेंबर्स सलेक्ट करेगी । यह राय हम ने मान ली कि "नॉट मोर दैन सिक्स" मेंबर्स होंगे,लेकिन उनको गवर्नमेंट अपॉइट करेगी ।

नंबर 4, समिति की यह भी सिफारिश थी कि प्राधिकरण के निर्णयों के विरूद्व अपील की जा सकती है सुप्रीम कोर्ट में,उच्चतम न्यायालय में । यदि कोई फैसला होगा अथोरिटी का,तो सिर्फ उसकी अपील सुप्रीम कोर्ट में ही होगी । हमने इसको हाईकोर्ट में भी कर दिया है । पहले हाईकोर्ट में होगी और हाईकोर्ट के बाद वह सुप्रीम कोर्ट में जाएगा । यह इसलिए कर दिया कि तमाम लिटिगेशन हमारे स्टेटस में हो सकते हैं,उनको दौड़कर सुप्रीम कोर्ट आना पड़ेगा । अब वह अपने हाईकोर्ट में भी उसके खिलाफ अपील कर सकते हैं । हमने इसको थोड़ा सरल बनाने के लिए और लोगों के लिए सुलभ बनाने के लिए सुप्रीम कोर्ट की जगह यह किया हैं । **...(व्यवधान)**...

SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES: Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, may I intervene now for a minute, if the Minister yields? Clause 4 says that the Chairperson will be a sitting Judge of the Supreme Court or a retired Judge of the Supreme Court or a sitting Chief Justice of a High Court or a retired Chief Justice of a High Court and clause 18 says that the appeal will lie to

the High Court. How can it be possible? You are going to demolish the judiciary. It is legally not tenable. It will be struck down. That is what I am telling to the Minister. In case you are appointing a sitting Judge of the Supreme Court as the Chairperson, the appeal should lie to the Supreme Court and not to the High Court. If the Chairperson is a sitting Chief Justice of a High Court, the appeal will be heard by an ordinary Judge of a High Court! How can an appeal lie to the High Court? So, this is a legal point. I don't think that they have sent the Bill to the Law Department. It will be struck down. That was my point. They have not sent the Bill to the Law Department.

श्री बेनी प्रसाद वर्मा: श्रीमन्,विधि मंत्रालय से इसका परीक्षण करवा लिया गया है । इस अथोरिटी को सिविल कोर्ट के राइट होंगे।उसके बाद अपील हाई कोर्ट में हो सकती है,हाई कोर्ट के बाद सुप्रीम कोर्ट में जा सकता है ।

SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES: It is not legally tenable. It is unethical.

श्री बेनी प्रसाद वर्मा:श्रीमन्,इसी तरह से पांचवी सिफारिश भी हमने नहीं मानी है,जो दरों के बारे में थीं । स्टेंडिंग कमेटी की रिपोर्ट में था कि जो भी टैरिफ तय हो,उसको पार्लियामेंट में पेश किया जाए और पार्लियामेंट चाहे तो उसको अमेण्ड करे । हमने इसको क्लैरिफाई करने की जरूरत नहीं समझी और वह इसलिए कि जो भी एनुअल रिपोर्ट होगी वह पार्लियामेंट में ले होगी,पार्लियामेंट ही सुप्रीम हैं ।

श्री मोहम्मद आज़म खान(उत्तर प्रदेश): सुप्रीम कोर्ट में है,तो क्या सुप्रीम कोर्ट के बाद कोई और कोर्ट होगी ? थ्री टायर जुडीशियरी सिस्टम हैं । ...(**व्यवधान**)...क्या कहीं और अपील होगी ?

श्री बेनी प्रसाद वर्मा: वह तो खत्म हो गया,नेक्स्ट पाईट पर आ गए हैं,हम टैरिफ पर आ गए हैं । टैरिफ के बारे में स्टेंडिंग कमेटी की रिपोर्ट थी कि टैरिफ में जो भी चेन्ज हो,पालियामेंट में रखा जाए,पार्लियामेंट उसमें चेन्ज करने का अधिकार रखती है । पार्लियामेंट सुप्रीम है । उसके निर्णय को कौन चेलेन्ज करेगा ? उनको अपनी एनुअल रिपोर्ट पार्लियामेंट में ले करनी पड़ेगी । पार्लियामेंट को यह राइट है कि किसी भी रिपोर्ट पर वह बहस करे और उसमें कोई अमेण्ड कर सकती हैं । इसलिए हमने इसको जरूरी नहीं समझा तक इसको हम अलग से डिफाइन करें ।

श्रीमन्,हमने इन पांच सिफारिशों को नहीं माना । जो 30 सिफारिशें थी,उन 30 सिफारिशों में बाकी 25 सिफारिशें हमने मान लीं ।

श्रीमन्,जहां तक ग्रामीण टेलीफोन के बारे में खासतौर से हमारे माननीय सदस्य टी.एस.वेंकटचलम साहब ने,आशंका व्यक्त की हैं, हम उनसे पूरी तरह से सहमत हैं । इस प्राधिकरण का उद्देश्य यही है कि यहां पर जो सेवाएं हैं,उसमें सुधार लाने के लिए अलग से अधिकार दिए गए हैं कि जो शिकायतें हों और जो गलती करे उसको सजा भी दी जाए और उस सजा के दायरे में सिर्फ प्राइवेट आपरेटर ही नहीं होंगे,डिपार्टमेंट भी होगा,डिपार्टमेंट के आफीसर भी पनिश किए जाएंगे । हमने यहां एक दिन ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों के लिए स्टेटमेंट भी दिया था । हम खुद संतुष्ट नहीं है । एक लाख से ऊपर रूपया लगता है । टावर लगाने में एम.ए.आर.आर.। श्रीमन्,जहां से आप आते हैं,सबसे खराब वहीं की हालत है मध्यप्रदेश की,बिहार,उत्तर प्रदेश की । हमने उनकी टैक्रीकल,फाइनेन्सियल,जबसे यह इंटरोड्यूस हुआ तब से अब तक कौनसी इसमें कमी रही,इसकी जांच करने के लिए सी.बी.आई.को रेफर कर दिया हैं ।

हमको डिपार्टमेंट से जो रिपोर्ट मिलती है,हम भी उससे संतुष्ट नहीं है । वे कहते है कि इतने परसैंट ठीक,इतने परसैंट खराब । इसको भी हमने इंडिपेंडेंट एजेंसी को जांच करने के लिए भेज दिया है कि हमारे डिपार्टमेंट के सैल की जो रिपोर्ट हमारे पास आई है वह सही है या नहीं ? तो चिंता है हमारी कि ग्रामीण टेलीफोन विशेष रूप से ठीक हो । प्राधिकरण का गठन भी इसमें थोड़ा सहयोग करेगा ।

हमारे साथी श्री गुरूदास दासगुप्त जी यहां नहीं है,चले गए,उन्होंने यहां पर काफी आशंका व्यक्त की थी कम्पीटीशन के बारे में कि प्राइवेट सैक्टर से पब्लिक सैक्टर कैसे कम्पीटीशन कर पाएंगे । तो उनको इन्प्रूव करना पड़ेगा । आई.टी.आई.और एच.सी.एल. को अलग से रिलीफ पैकेज दिया है,लेकिन परफारमेस में इम्प्रूवमेंट लानी पड़ेगी । अब जब कि लिब्रलाइजेशन पॉलिसी को एडॉप्ट कर लिया गया है,तो उसमें उनको इम्प्रूव होना ही पड़ेगा,अगर उन्हें अपने ईस्टीटयूशन को जिंदा रखना है । गुरूदास दासगुप्त जी ने खास तौर से यह कहा था कि इस अथरिटी के ऊपर कंट्रोल क्या होगा ? स्टेंडिंग कमेटी का कंट्रोल होना चाहिए,उन्होंने

इसी बात को उठाया था । महोदय,एक्ट की धारा 21 में यह लिखा हुआ है कि :-

"पार्लियामेंट टी.आर.ए.आई.को ग्रांट देते समय...

उनको ग्रांट पार्लियामेंट से दी जाएगी । तो उसमें लिखा है कि:-

"पार्लियामेंट टी.आर.ए.आई.को ग्रांट देते समय उनके फंक्शनिंग पर पूरी तरह से चर्चा करें ।"

उनको ग्रांट जब हम देंगे तो उनके फंक्शनिंग पर हम चर्चा करेंगे और उनकी एन्युअल रिपोर्ट यहां ले होगी,तो पार्लियामेंट का उसके ऊपर कंट्रोल रहेगा और पार्लियामेंट अगर चाहे तो एक कमेटी भी बनाकर उनके ऊपर कंट्रोल कर सकती है पार्लियामेंट के परव्यू के बाहर तो कोई जा ही नहीं सकता,हमारे देश की कोई भी अथारिटी या बॉडी इसके परव्यू के बाहर नहीं जा सकती । तो हम समझते हैं कि जो उनकी आशंका थी,इससे उनकी आशंका का काफी समाधान हो गया होगा ।

फर्जी बिलिंग के बारे में हमारी बहन जी ने भी शिकायत की थी और भट्ट जी ने भी खास तौर से शिकायत की थी । हमने वहां वर्क कल्चर के बारे में कहा था और इसके सुधार के लिए हम सबको मिलकर प्रयास करना पड़ेगा । ये कर्मचारी न विदेश से आए हैं,न आसमान से आएं है,ये हमारे ही घरों के लड़कें हैं । तो समाज के वातावरण को भी बनने की जरूरत है । हमने कल ही विजिलैंस को यह केस इन्क्वायरी के लिए सौंपा हैं कि लोक सभा के पिछले चुनाव के समय पार्लियामेंट के मैम्बरों के बिल दो ही महीनों में एक लाख,डेढ़ लाख,दो लाख कैसे हो गए ? यह हमारी खुद की समझ में नहीं आता ? फर्जी बिलिंग होती है,हम इसको अथेंटिक रूप से नहीं कह रहे हैं लेकिन जो हमारा अनधिकृत बाह्य ज्ञान है,आउट साइड फीड बैंक है,उसके आधार पर कह रहे हैं हम पार्लियामेंट से छिपाना नहीं चाहते,मिश्र जी कह रहे हैं कि न कहें,लेकिन हम कहेंगे कि हमारे कर्मचारी और पी.सी.ओ.के मालिक उन दिनों मिलकर वे कालें फिट कर देते थे । यह हमारा आउट साइड फीड बैंक है,अथेंटिक नहीं है । हमने यह मामला विजिलैंस को सुपुर्द किया हुआ है और वे इस बारे में रिपोर्ट देंगे । इसकी रोकथाम के लिए हमको जो भी सख्त कदम उठाना पड़ेगा,हम वह उठाएंगे । हम इस सदन को आश्वासन दे रहे हैं कि अगर हमको बड़े से बड़ा कदम भी उठाना पड़ता तो हम वह भी उठाएंगे लेकिन बेइमान को सरंक्षण इस विभाग में हम नहीं मिलनें देंगे । हमने इसमें पारदर्शिता अलग से डिफाइन की है,लेकिन पारदर्शिता सिर्फ शब्दों से या भाषण से नहीं होती,आचरण से होती है । हमारा आपसे विनम्र यही निवेदन है कि हम आचरण से इस बात का प्रयास करें कि पारदर्शिता झलके । हम गलती कर सकते है,उसके लिए हम आपको आदर सहित कहते हैं कि जहां हम गलती करें,वहां आप हमें इंगित करें । इंसान से गलती हो सकती है । हम अथारिटी के बारे में भी हम कहते हैं कि यदि यह अथारिटी पहले बन गई होती तो जितना यह विभाग विवाद में आया है,न आया होता । हम जर्मनी गए ,दो दिन पहले । हम कहना चाहते हैं कि मंत्री हो या संसद सदस्य हो,उनका अपमान जो होता है,एक तरह से उसमें पूरे राष्ट्र का मान-सम्मान निहित होता हैं । आज इस विधेयक के बन जाने के बाद जो निदेश है,उनका इस विभाग में विश्वास बढ़ेगा ।

श्री बेनी प्रसाद वर्मा(क्रमागत): विदेशी पूंजी निवेश भी तेजी से बढ़ेगा । महोदय,थोड़ी-बहुत हमारे इस विभाग में प्रगति हुई हैं । सर्विसेज की इंप्रुवमेवंट की बात मैं नहीं करता हूं,उसमें हम लगे हुए हैं लेकिन फिर भी पूरी तरह से हम संतुष्ट नहीं है । अभी 2 बेसिक ऑपरेटर्स से एग्रीमेंट साईन कर दिया,लाइसेंस फीस का पहला इंस्टालमेंट उन्होंने जमा कर दिया,गुजरात और मध्य प्रदेश,शुरू तो हुआ प्रोसेस । सेलुलर ऑपरेटर्स भी सर्किल्स में ऑपरेशन में आ गए । उनका विश्वास थोड़ा बढ़ा है । यह बिल लोक सभा के पास हो चुका है,यहां भी पास हो जाएगा । इस बिल के पास हो जाने के बाद इसका विश्वव्यापी असर होगा ।

महोदय,अभी इस कम्युनिकेशन सैक्टर में हमको । पूंजी की जितनी जरूरत है,हमारी सरकार के पास इतनी पूंजी नहीं है । इसलिए हमको फॉरेन इन्वैस्टमेंट की जरूरत है,हालांकि फॉरेन कंट्रीज हमारे ऊपर दबाव डालेंगे कि हम इसको बढ़ाएं । डब्ल्यू.टी.ओ.में हमने 25 परसेंट से ज्यादा नहीं दिया है । टेलीकम्युनिकेशंस में इंटरनेशनल कमिटमेंट हमारा 25 परसेंट से ज्यादा का नहीं है । वैसे प्रैक्टिली हम 49 परसेंट दे रहे हैं,वह अलग बात हैं । हमारे ऊपर तामम विदेशी लोगों का दबाव रहा लेकिन उसको हमने 25 परसेंट से ज्यादा नहीं बढ़ने दिया ।

श्री नीलोत्पल बसु: अभी तो आप 73 परसेंट दे रहे हैं ।

श्री बेनी प्रसाद वर्मा: वह तो इनडॉयरेक्ट है,वह इंटर्नल हैं ।

That is not an international commitment. I am not bound by it. I am bound by only 25 per cent.

महोदय,टेलीकम्युनिकेशन देश के विकास का एक साधन है लेकिन केवल टेलीकम्युनिकेशन से ही देश का विकास नहीं होगा । इस देश का विकास दूसरी समस्याओं के साथ जुड़ा हुआ है । जब आर्थिक,सामाजिक और सांस्कृतिक सब क्षेत्रों में सुधार होगा तो टेलीकम्युनिकेशन में जो सुधार होगा,वह सोने में सुहागा हो जाएगा । सब चीजों को बढ़ाने के साथ-साथ इसको भी बढ़ाने की कोशिश हम करेंगें ।

उपसभाध्यक्ष(श्री अजीत जोगी):एक दूसरे बिल पर भी हमें विचार करना है,इसलिए आप समाप्त कीजिए ।

श्री बेनी प्रसाद वर्मा: महोदय,सब लोगों ने इस बिल के बारे में जो विचार व्यक्त किए है,मैंने पहले ही उनके प्रति आभार व्यक्त किए हैं,मैंने पहले ही उनके प्रति आभार व्यक्त कर दिया है । हमारे माननीय सदस्यों ने इस प्राधिकरण की भावना का आदर किया है,इसका समर्थन किया है । माननीय सतीश अग्रवाल जी बहुत ही विद्वान सदस्य है,वे यहां उपस्थित नहीं है,उनका हम खास तौर से धन्यवाद करते हैं । इसमें जो भी कमियां हमें महसूस होंगी,हम रूल्स और रेगुलेंशसं में उनको समाहित करने की कोशिश करेंगे ।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI AJIT P.K. JOGI): I shall now put the motion moved by Shri Beni Prasad Varma to vote.

The question is:

> "That the Bill to provide for the establishment of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India to regulate the telecommunication services, and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

The motin was adopted.

THE. VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI AJIT P.K. JOGI): We shall now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

Clauses 2 to 40 were added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA: Sir, I move:

"That the Bill be passed."

The question was put and the motion was adopted

The Aquaculture Authority Bill, 1997

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI AJIT P.K. JOGI): Now we take up the Aquaculture Authority Bill, 1997. Shri Chaturanah Mishra to move for leave to introduce the Aquaculture Authority Bill, 1997.

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introducce the Bill to provide for the establishment of an Aquaculture Authority for regulating the activities connected with aquaculture in the coastal areas and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto**.**

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI AJIT P.K. JOGI): Now, the Bill is being taken up for consideration. Shri Chaturanan Mishra to move a motion for consideration of the Aquaculture Authority Bill, 1997.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Sir, I beg to move:

> "That the Bill to provide for the establishemnt of an Aquaculture Authority for regulating the activities connected with aquaculture in the coastal areas and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto be taken into consideration."

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय,यह बिल लाने की एक खास जरूरत इसलिए पड़ गई कि 11 दिसम्बर,1996 को सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने अपने एक फैसले में यह ओदश दिया कि समुद्र तट पर हाई टैंशन लाईन के 500 मीटर के भीतर जितने भी गैर परम्परागत और उन्नत परम्परागत फार्म को छोड़ करके जितने फार्म है,एक्वाकल्चर के लिए उन्हें 31 मार्च,97 तक तोड़ दिया जाए और

सम्बन्धित जिलाधिकारी और पुलिस सुपरिटेंडेंट को इसकी रिपोर्ट देने को कहा गया कि वह पूरा तोड़ करके हटाकर 15 अप्रैल,तक रिपोर्ट दें । इसका उद्देश्य पर्यावरण की रक्षा करने का था । इसमें कोई शक नहीं है । लेकिन सुप्रीम कोर्ट के इस फैसले के मुताबिक अपने देश के लगभग 3.8 लाख मजदूर,किसान एंव दूसरे लोग जो इससे संबंधित थे उनके ऊपर में भारी कुठाराघात हो रहा था,वह नौकरी से हटाए जा रहे थे । हमारे कृषि मंत्रालय ने इसके खिलाफ एक अपील पुनर्विचार के लिए सुप्रीम कोर्ट में दायर की । लेकिन सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने उसकी तारीख जो तय किया वह 31 मार्च के बाद थीं । हम चाहते थे कि सुप्रीम कोर्ट इस पर पहले विचार करे ताकि इतने बड़े पैमाने पर इन फार्म को तोड़ने की जरूरत न पड़े या नियमित ढंग से हम उसको कैसे चलाएं इसके संबंध में सुप्रीम कोर्ट से या राय करके आगे काम बढ़ाएं । लेकिन सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने जो तारीख तक कि वह 31 मार्च के बाद की है । इसलिए हमारे जो जिलाधिकारी थी या पुलिस विभाग के लोग थे उन लोगों ने कहीं-कहीं फार्म वैगरह तोड़ना भी शुरू कर दिया । एक ऐसी स्थिति आ गई जो सिविल कमीशन पैदा कर सकती है । आपसे मैं यह भी कहना चाहूंगा कि हाल के वर्षो में भारत ने एक्वाकल्चर में एक्सपोर्ट करने में अपना एक स्थान बना लिया है । जो हमारे पास सूचना है उसके मुताबिक 1995-96 के अंदर 16 हजार 65 करोड़ की हमारी एक्सपोर्ट हुई थी जिसमें एक भारी हिस्सा है जो इप्रूव्ड तरीके से एक्वाकल्चर पैदा करने के कारण दुनिया में एक्वाकल्चर एक्सपोर्ट करने में स्थान भारत पा गया है । अगर इस तरह का जो अचानल यह आदेश आया उससे उसमें भी विघटन पैदा हो गया । सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने कहा था कि एक एक्वाकल्चर खेती देश में चलाएगी । भारत सरकार ने जो एक दूसरा कानून पर्यावरण का है उसके मातहत एक आथॉरिटी कायम कर दी और एक हाई कोर्ट के रिटायर्ड जज को इसकी अध्यक्षता के लिए कहा गया । यह देखा गया कि एक्वाकल्चर का जो काम हैं,वह मुख्यतःकृषि मंत्रालय की तरफ से होता है । तो इस तरह से इसमें एक विरोधाभास पैदा हो जाता कि अथॉरिटी एक विभाग के अंदर होती और अनुपालन का काम दूसरे विभाग के अंदर होता । इसलिए कृषि विभाग या भारत सरकार ने यह सोचा कि कृषि विभाग की तरफ से ही इसको किया जाए ताकि अथॉरिटी भी रहे और इसका अनुपालन भी उन्हीं को करना पड़े और इन दोनों में सामन्जस्य स्थापित किया जा सके । इसी दृष्टिकोण से इस बिल को यहां लाने की जरूरत पड़ी ताकि उन लोगों को तात्कालिक विभाजन हम कर सकें । इस बिल के पीछे सुप्रीम कोर्ट के आदेश की अवमानना का कोई प्रश्न ही नहीं हैं,उसकी अवहेलना करने का कोई प्रश्र ही नहीं है । हम सभी सुप्रीम कोर्ट की बहुत इज्जत करते हैं । सुप्रीम कोर्ट की प्रतिष्ठा को रखने में वंय गणतंत्र की प्रतिष्ठा को कायम रखना है । इसलिए यह प्रश्र नहीं है कि हम उसकी किसी बात की अवमानना करें । सच्चाई यह है कि जैसा आप इस बिल के अंदर देखेंगे कि जो अथॉरिटी कायम की जा रही है,वह अथॉरिटी कायम करने के लिए सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने ही कहा था और उन्हीं के आदेशानुसार हम इसको कर रह हैं । मैंने आपसे पहले कहा कि पहले उनके आदेश को मानकर जो इन्वायरमेंट प्रोटैक्शन ऐक्ट है,उसके मातहत किया था और अब इस अथॉरिटी के मातहत हम इसको कर रहे हैं । दूसरी बात यह भी है कि इसकी अध्यक्षता भी हाई कोर्ट के रिटायर्ड जज ही कर रहे है,ऐसा भी हम ज्यूडीशरी को प्रतिष्ठा देने के लिहाज से और उसकी कद्र करते हुए यहां मान रहे हैं । एक और विषय है कि चिल्का झील जो उड़ीसा में है और पुलीकाट जो तमिलनाड़ में हैउसके संबंध में सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने जो भी आदेश दिया है,उसको हम हूबहू रखना चाहते हैं ताकि वहां के वातावरण को किसी तरह हम दूषित न करें । सच यह है कि कृषि मंत्रालय ने जो इसके पहले पर्यावरण की सुरक्षा के लिए गाइड लाइन्स अगस्त 1995 में बनायीं थीं,वह बहुत से मायनों में बहुत अच्छी थीं और उनको मान लेने के बाद पर्यावरण की काफी सुरक्षा की जा सकी है । जो अथॉरिटी इसमें कायम हो रही है,उधर हम आपका ध्यान दिलाना चाहेंगे,सैक्शन 10 की तरफ आपका ध्यान चाहेंगे :- पॉवर्स एंव फंक्शंनस ऑफ दी अथारिटी । उसका 1-बी में हैं ।

to inspect acquaculturc farms with a view to ascertaining their environmental impact caused by aquaculture.

इसलिए किसी को यह शक नहीं होना चाहिए कि एक्वाकल्चर के बारे में किसी तरह की नरमी हम बरतना चाहते हैं । पर्यावरण को हम सर्वोपरि स्थान देना चाहते हैं,फर्स्ट प्रयोरिटी उसको देना चाहते हैं । लेकिन यह जरूर है कि पर्यावरण तो मानव जाति की रक्षा के लिए ही होगा इसलिए कुछ ऐसा नहीं किया जाए कि मानव जाति पर ही चोट पहुंचने लगे । इसीलिए काफी लोग इससे अफ्रेड हो रहे हैं । दूसरे भी अधिकार जो पॉवर्स ऐंड फंक्शंस ऑफ दी आथारिटी में दिये गये हैं जिससे उनको

बहुत ज्यादा अधिकार मिला है ताकि पर्यावरण के संबंध में

to prescribe regulations for the construction and operation of aquaculture farms within the coastal areas;

यह उनके ही अधिकार में दिया गया है ।

to grant licences to aquaculture farms;

यह अधिकार में दिया गया है कि जहां वह उचित समझें,वह दें ।

to order removal or demolition of any aquaculture farms which is causing pollution after hearing the occupier of the farm;

हमने यह भी अधिकार उनको दे दिया है कि अगर वह पर्यावरण पर आघात करता है तो उसको डिमालिश कर सकते हैं । और आखिर में

perform such other functions as may be prescribed.

जैसा भी उचित समझें । इसलिए हमने उनको पर्यावरण के संबंध में पूरे अधिकार दे दिये हैं कि इसको कर सकें । यह भी प्रश्न उठा था कि ऐसे काम करने के लिए कोई समय अगर निर्धारित होता तो अच्छा था । इसको भी हमने ख्याल में रखा है और मैं आपको ध्यान इसकी तरफ भी आकर्षित करना चाहूंगा ।

4.00 P.M.

Section 12(2) says:—

> "Notwithstanding anything contained in subsection (1), a person engaged in aquaculture farming immediately before the appointed day may continue to carry on such activity without such a licence for a period of six months from that day and if he makes an application for such licence under this sub-section within the said period of six months, till the communication to him of the order of the Authority disposing of such application."

[The Deputy Chairman in the Chair.]

इसलिए हमने तय कर दिया है कि 6 महीने के अंदर इन सारी चीजों की देखभाल करके ऑथारिटी जैसा पर्यावरण की सुरक्षा के लिए करे,उसको उस तरह से किया जाए ।

महोदय,सुप्रीम कोर्ट के आदेश को ही मानकर हमने इसके लिए जो एच.टी.एल.,हाई टाइड लेवल,है,उसके 200 मीटर के अंदर, आगे से कोई भी लाइसेंस न देने का भी प्रावधान कर दिया है । हमारा कहने का मतलब यह है कि किसी भी अर्थ में हम सुप्रीम कोर्ट के आदेश की अवमानना नहीं कर रहे हैं,अवमानना का कोई प्रश्न ही नहीं उठता । हां,यह प्रश्न जरूर उठेगा कि आप यह विधेयक क्यों ला रहे हैं,क्या बात है । जैसा मैंने पहले का था कि 3.8 लाख पापुलेशन एडवर्सली इससे एफेक्टेड है । सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने निरी से जो बहुत ही प्रतिष्ठित संस्था पार्यवरण के बारे में है, उससे जांच कराई थी । उसने 23 सौ फर्मो में से,मात्र 35 फर्मो की जांच की और उस जांच के आधार पर उसने डिमालिशन करने का आदेश दे दिया यह नेचुरल जस्टिस नहीं है । हर एक की बात सुनी जानी चाहिए । अगर यह पर्यावरण पर चोट करता है तो आप उसको सजा दीजिए लेकिन बिना सुनवाई के कर देना और इतने बड़े पैमाने पर कर देना,जिससे सिविल कमोशन पैदा हो जाए,यह ठीक नहीं है । इसलिए उनकी रक्षा के लिए हमको यह काम करना पड़ा । पार्लियामेंट का यह सत्र अब स्थगित होने वाला है । आज और कल,दो दिन का समय हमारे पास था । सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने मुकदमें की सुनवाई की तारीख 31 मार्च के बाद रख दी और 31 मार्च के भीतर यह तोड़-फोड़ कर दिया जाता तो उनकी रक्षा के लिए हमारे पास कोई दूसरा हथियार नहीं था । इसलिए मैं सदन के पास आया कि सदन इसको पारित कर दें ताकि हम उनकी रक्षा कर सकें । इसलिए यह बिल लाया गया हैं । मुझे पूरा विश्वास है कि सभी दलों के लोग उनकी रक्षा करने में सहयोग करेंगे ।

उपसभापति: मूव कर दीजिए,आपका भाषण बहुत अच्छा था ।

श्री चतुरानन मिश्र: वह तो कर दिया था ।

The question *was proposed.*

उपसभापति: आई थैंक आल दि लीडर्स आफ वेरियस पोलिटिकल पार्टीज जो हम लोगों ने आज ही आज में यह बिल इन्ट्राड्यूज किया और आज ही आज में इसको पास करने के लिए,इसकी अजेंसी की

वजह से,तैयार हो गए है । आपको अब मेरी एक और मदद करनी है और मुझे उम्मीद है कि आप लोग मेरे साथ सहयोग करेंगे ।

मुलायम सिंह यादव जी ने,डिफेंस मिनिस्टर साहब ने,एक आश्वासन इस हाउस में दिया था कि वे चायना के बारे में स्टेटमेंट देंगे । इस बारे में क्वेश्वन था और उन्होंने कहा था कि हमारी बातचीत चल रही है और मैं हाउस में आकर बोलूंगा । मगर हाउस उनको समय ही नहीं दे पायी । वह कल-परसों से कह रहे हैं कि मुझे स्टेटमेंट करना है पर हम उनको समय नहीं दे पाए । वे यहां हैं और उनको आज कहीं जाना हैं । मैंने उनसे कहा कि मैं हाउस की परमीशन ले लूंगा कि वे अपना स्टेटमेंट यहां हाउस के पटल पर रख दें । आप लोग उसको पढ़ लें और कल हम लोग उस पर क्लेरीफिकेशन पूछ लेंगे ।

इसी तरह से हमारे होम मिनिस्टर साहब श्री इन्द्रजीत गुप्ता जी का स्टेटमेंट भी है । वह भी बड़ा इम्पेटिंट हैं और हम नहीं चाहेंगे कि उसमें डिले हो । वे खाली आज उसको रख दें,क्लेरीफिकेशन हम लोग कल समय निकाल कर कर लेंगें ।

श्री चतुरानन मिश्र: इन तीनों में सबसे ज्यादा इम्पोंटेंट कौन सा हैं ?

उपसभापति: हमारे लिए तो सब इम्पोंटेंट हैं,पूरा हाउस इम्पोटेंट हैं ।

श्री चतुरानन मिश्र: इनको एक एक करके कर दीजिए ।

उपसभापति: आप स्टेटमेंट पढ़िए नहीं,खाली सभा पटल पर रख दें तो जल्दी हो जाएगा ।

STATEMENTS BY MINISTER

Recent Incursion into Indian Territory In Himachal Pradesh region, by the Chinese army and the implications thereof

रक्षा मंत्री (**श्री मुलायम सिंह यादव**): माननीय उपसभापति महोदया,मैं चीनी सेना द्वारा हिमाचल प्रदेश के भारतीय सीमा क्षेत्र में हाल की घुसपैठ के संबंध में अपना वक्तव्य सदन के सभा पटल पर रखता हूं ।

Release of persons still under detention under the erstwhile Terrorist and Disruptive Activities Act 1987, which lapsed on 23rd May, 1995

उपसभापति: शुक्रिया । हिन्दी और अंग्रेजी की दोनों कापियां बराबर डिस्ट्रीब्यूट कर दीजिये ताकि मैम्बर रात को पढ़ कर कल आ सकें ।

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): Madam, as per your direction, I beg to lay on the Table of the House a statement on issues raised by hon. Members regarding release of persons who are still under detention under the erstwhile Terrorist and Disruptive Activities Act of 1987 which lapsed on the 23rd May, 1995.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Will it be effective retrospectively or just from today? So, copies of this statement should also be distributed in both languagtes, Hindi and English, so that Memebrs can read it—copies of both, the statement of the Defence Minister and the Home Minister. Now, the discussion on the Acquaculture Authority Bill, 1997 is open for discussion.

THE AQUACULTURE AUTHORITY BILL, 1997—*Contd.*

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN (Maharashtra): Madam, have we waived all the rules?

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Today, we have waived all the rules in view of the plea which Chaturananji made and in view of the people who are going to suffer due to this. The House is being very indulgent to do this and I thank on behalf of everybody. I think, if we have so many speakers, we won't be able to finish it in one hour. So, I will have to cut down names of speakers. Dr. Gopalrao Patil.

आज तो आप भी बोल रहे हैं बी.जे.पी.की तरफ से ।

डा.गोपालराव विट्ठलराव पाटिल(**महाराष्ट्र**):कापसे जी बोलेंगें । समय रहा तो मैं भी तीन मिनट बोलूंगा ।

उपसभापति: नहीं नहीं आप नहीं बोलिये क्योंकि हम लोगों को एक घंटे में खत्म करना है तो कैसे होगा । कापसे जी प्लीज़ आप बोलिये ।

Mr. Vayalar Ravi, you are also speaking on this.

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Yes, Madam.

PROF. RAM KAPSE (Maharashtra): Madam Deputy-Chairperson, today, hon. Chaturanan Mishraji introduced a Bill,

moved it for consideration and in a way, we are forced to support it immediately, but I think it will not be treated as a precedent. This is a crisis management and we are working like a fire-brigade. The judgement was delivered on 11th December, 1996 and since then three-our months have passed, the Minister should have prepared the Bill earlier and at least two days should have been given to us for study, and that would have been ideal, but we want to support it in the interest of human element which is involved in this whole affair. Hon. S.B. Chavanji enquired whether all rules have been waived. Yes, we have waived all the rules, but this is just for today and from tomorrow onwards, we expect that the U.F. Government will work in a different manner and not in a haphazard manner.

Madam, I would like to read some part of the judgement. The Supreme Court judgement has said, "All acquaculture industries, shrimp industries, shrimp culture ponds operating set up in the coastal regulation zone as defined in the CRZ Notification shall be demolished and removed before March 31, 1997." So, within ten days it needs to be demolished. Some State Governments have already started the work. In Orissa, 225 fields have already been demolished, and in many States collectors, police authorities and the people are ready to demolish.

If at all signal is given 'go ahead', then what will happen in the next week throughout the coastal shore? You can imagine that. Therefore, in the interest of humanity, we support this Bill with some reservations and some suggestions to which, I feel, Mr. Chaturanan Mishra, will definitely agree. This Bill will have far-reaching effects like the far-reaching judgement. The Bill itself will have far-reaching effects. If we take into consideration the environment of the country, we will have to be very careful. At the same time, if we demolish this aquaculture, it will lead to a great loss.

So, I would just like to give information to the House as to how much amount and men are involved in the whole affair. At present aquaculture gives employment—according to the figures given by his own Department—to three lakh people. It is much more than that because the actual labour and the other persons involved .in the industry who are benefited because of this industry, thier number is about 16 lakhs. As far as financial share of the Government is concerned, it is also not a small amount. The financial stakes are very high. Even in the Minister's own Department, that is, the Ministry of Agriculture, the NABARD has interest of Rs. 465 crores which has been disbursed. An amount of Rs. 1,200 crores has been given by the banks. The private'finances involved are to the tune Rs. 12,00 crores and the affected area is more than 80.000 hectares. We started helping this industry from the 6th Plan period. We wanted to help the fishermen. We wanted that the aquaculture should be promoted. The Department of Agricultural Development was very happy to mention the development that was made in 1995-96 with regard to brackish water aquaculture. Paragraphs after paragraphs have been written in his own report of 1995-96. At the same time you had given land to the people. There are many States which even gave land to the people just for aquaculture. Subsidy was given. In Gujarat subsidy was given. If you wanted to promote this industry, then what came in the way of this industry and what created a problem in the Supreme Court? Their own rules of 1991 created this problem. This is a legacy that you have. In 1991, the Department of Environment and forests came with some rules with regard to environment. The Supreme Court was of the opinion that these rules were being flouted by the aquaculture industry. For this your Government has to suffer. This is the situation in which we are placed. What is the reason? The real reason is the Coastal Regulation Zone, the CRZ.

1 want these rules to be studied urgently. The CRZ is creating a problem not only in aquaculture, but in many other area also.

In the 80's, Mrs. Indira Gandhi had a feeling, had a wish, that on the seashore, up to 5C0 metres should be a free area; whatever was to be done, whatever construction, etc., was to be done should be done beyond 500 metres. This was just a wish, but it was taken as an order by many. Then many things followed and that has created a problem in Maharashtra, especially, in Konkan. *(Interruptions)* Any comment?

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No. How can anybody make any comment on such a good suggestion? It will be only appreciation.

PROF. RAM KAPSE: As I said, this was just a wish of Mrs. Indira Gandhi. Actually, when the CRZ thing was started, enough care was not taken. In the case of the eastern shore and the western shore, the coastline is different. Area-wise, it differs. As far as Konkan is concerned, the valley and the sea are so nearby that the CRZ needs to be restudied and then we should go ahead, according to the needs.

Therefore, my first suggestion to the hon. Minister is this. Of course, we will pass this Bill. We will support this Bill. We do not oppose it on any count. Even if it is to be passed today itself, we would not object. At the same time, since the issues involved are so many, I would suggest that a Parliamentary Committee should be appointed by the Government—really speaking, the Committee should be appointed by Parliament itself—to go into the many issues which are involved in this.

One is environment. Madam, Mahatma Gandhiji once said that Nature had given enough to the humanity, but not enough to the greed of the humanity. Therefore, if at all we want to protect the environment, we have to work against this agreed which is all-pervasive. In that case, something needs to be done for the environment. Wherever aquaculture is creating a problem vis-a-vis environment, it should be immediately studied and ways must be found to overcome the problem.

Another problem is about the fishermen. If, because of aquaculture, the fishermen living in the coastal area are put to a loss, it would definitely be detrimental to the interests of a particular section of the society. I think this needs to be taken care of. There are some leaders of the fishermen who are saying that this aquaculture is creating a problem for them. We will have to listen to them. Mr. Thomas is there. We will have to listen to him. There are some persons in Maharashtra also. We will have to listen to them. Just as we have to take into consideration the environmental aspect, we should also take into account what these fishermen want to say. If there is any substance in their argument, the Committee should go into it in depth and then decide the matter.

While giving the judgment, the Supreme Court had opined that aquaculture was not agriculture, but an industry. Now, what is the opinion of Parliament? We have been treating this as agriculture since 1974. We have been treating this as agriculture. If the Supreme Court is of the opinion that it is an industry, we will have to study this question whether it is an industry or not. That is also a matter of concern.

Then, whether it should be small farming or big farming, that is also an issue. Whatever information I have today is that in most areas it is small farming with two hectares, three hectares, five hectares or, at the most, ten hectares. There were only two big companies which were working till 1995. They stopped working. The Government did not work in time. That has created a problem. A case was filed in the Supreme Court in 1994. An interim stay was given in 1995. Financial institutions stopped giving loans, and naturally some

industries backed out. Now, small farmers are interested in it. So, we should try to work for their betterment.

Another issue is whether MNCs should be allowed to come here. We would like to oppose big industries and big agriculturists coming in this. We support small farmers, and we should have a separate Act for them.

Then, at the same time, you mentioned about exports. If you want to promote exports, you should also look into the facilities which could be created for exports.

Now, financial assistance has been almost stopped. The last month the whole industry closed. Nobody is working there, so, this also needs to be looked into.

Again, the infrastructure facilities which need to be given also need to be looked into. We will have to work for technological advancement.

So, these are the issues. You will agree with me that these issues will not be considered by the Authority you are forming today. That is a separate job. It needs to be done. If we really study, it, if we work on the matter, naturally, whatever we will do will ultimately be beneficial to fishermen, agriculturists, industries, the nation and for exports. Ultimately, we will not be at a loss.

Therefore, though I support the Bill, if at all the Government thinks that my suggestions are worth considering, these may please be looked into.

Thank you very much.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Kapse made very good suggestions.

I have a suggestion from the Chair, Mr. Minister. We were discussing it with Dr. Biplab Dasgupta in my chamber. We have done this because of the urgency of the situation. Having done this, we would like that sometime after forming the Authority you come back to the House and discuss this matter in great detail so that Members' input could come in a proper form which may guide both environment-protection as well as protection of the livelihood of the people and the export which is important to us.

DR. GOPALRAO VITHALRAO PATIL: Madam, I associate myself with you on this.

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI (Kerala): Madam Deputy Chairman, let me being with fully endorsing the views expressed by the Chair itself.

Madam, I am coming from a place where the writ of the Supreme Court on the Coastal Regulation Zone never runs because the sea-erosion is the order of the day. Whatever shore was fixed last year has gone already. So, it is a peculiar situation. So, I hope the Supreme Court will take this into account and give a direction to the Government of India to allot more money at least to protect the CRZ.

Madam, I support this enactment because it involves not only the employees but also big financial commitments. Banks may incur heavy losses if you completely close them down.

It is a pity. Of course, I do not want to go into or repeat what the Supreme Court has said. But, in this period of public interest litigations and the social environment concept of the judiciary, they fail to understand the agony of more than a million workers and the agony of the entrepreneurs who have taken so much of loan from banks and other financial institutions.

Madam, while you are making a separate enactment, I would submit that there is another enactment called the Marine Products Spawn Development Authority. Its Clause 9 deals with the export of the marine products. As my hon. colleague has rightly said, I also do not agree that it is an industry. It is neither industry, nor agriculture. It is a fishery meant for export. These aquacultures are not mainly for international consumption. They are ourelv for export. The Marine Products

Spawn Development Authority is doing not only promotion, but is having its own acquaculture. There are shrimp farms. They are supplying seeds all over the country. Everywhere they are giving knowhow, technology and financial assistance. So, even an amendment to Clause 9 and the saving clause in the C.R. Zone, would not serve the purpose. Anyhow, this is only my suggestion.

The only point that I am making is that we are creating a new institution. That institution also can be a little more transparent and accessible to the entrepreneurs. Here at page 5, clause 10, you are saying a licence for every aquaculture farm will be issued. It is good, because there must be some kind of a regulation. But that regulation under this authority is going to be concerned with another institution. It will be parallel lo the Marine Products Export Development Authority doing the same work. They are encouraging the export potentional of shrimps and spawns. But, the point is that the people who invest so much of money have to take a licence and within three.years the licence will lapse. So, what is the guarantee for them? They will involve their money to the tune of Rs. 3/- crores, Rs. 4/- crores or even Rs. 10/- crores after taking bank loans. To formulate an aquaculture farm itself takes at the minimum one or two years. So, there will be a sense of insecurity, because they won't know what will happen after three years. I would request the hon. Minister to look into it and see if this period can be made 10 years. If not ten years, it can be five years at the minimum. Moreover, since the officers will have the authority to renew the licence, it will lead to corruption because so much money will be involved. They will demand money for renewal of a licence. In any case the Authority will have the power to cancel the licence at any point of time if they do not follow the rules. Therefore, I say, prescribing the limit of three years will do more harm than good.

My other point is that this kind of legislation will compel us to have a fresh look at the Environment Protection Act. I do not blame the Supreme Court, because they went into the letter and spirit of the Act and the decision of the Government. It is because we made an enactment that way, we Bill, created a problem. So, while supporting the, I request the Hon. Minister to have a fresh look into the Environment Act of 1986. Of course, we have to protect the environment, but at the same time we have to look into the practical difficulties that have been experienced so far. That is why I said at the beginning that the people who are living next to the sea, are facing the problem. They are facing the threat of sea-erosion at the time of every monsoon. You visit Kerala on the fourth of next month and you will see how disastrous it is.

[The Vice Chairman (Shri Triloki Nath Chaturvedi) in the Chair]

It is foreign invasion. While supporting the Bill and while thanking the Minister for protecting the interests of workers as well as the investors—especially many from Kerala are involved—I want him to look into my suggestion of increasing the period of 3 years and also the Government should look into bringing forth some kind of an amendment on the basis of practical experience gained from the Environment Protection Act, 1986. Thank You.

DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA (West Bengal): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I can see the urgency which has prompted the Minister to bring forth this Bill at the fag end of this particular session. I can see his justification in supporting the Bill because unless some decision is taken by this kind of legislation, employment will be affected and the flow of foreign exchange resources will also be affected. So, I am supporting this Bill. At the same time, I would not like this Bill to be seen as an attempt to overturn the decision of the Supreme Court. I would also not like the warning of the Supreme Court to *be dusnussed out of hand we*

are going in for heavy commercialisation of agriculture. This commercialisation has many pitfalls. It has long-term environmental implications. These should be studied and considered. Whatever measure we take now should not be at the cost of environmental degradation in the long run for the country as a whole. As far as shrimp farming is concerned, there are a number of problems which have come to light. For example, the two reports of the United Nations agencies—the United Nations Research Institute of Social Development has produced a report on fish farming and another report was produced by one of the UNDP experts-—have raised certain issues which I hope the Ministry of Agriculture would consider. One of the points they made is this, the shrimp farming encroaches on paddy farming. They introduce saline water. Paddy farming is converted into shrimp farming. Fafmers go in for it because there is an attractive offer. They offer a very good price to the farmers. Farmers give up the land for fish farming companies. But then what happens? Sometimes the demand falls in the world market. For example, in the case of Taiwan, many of the companies started this farming, but they were closed down because the demand went down. Sometimes the disease spreads and the fish farming collapses. When the fish farming collapses, there is no way of going back to paddy farming. You cannot switch over to paddy farming. It is irreversible. It can only be reversed after a very long time, maybe, 70 years, 80 years or 90 years. So, the damage that you are going to cause to paddy farming is irreversible. You are changing, the land use pattern which cannot be converted very soon. This problem should be seriously taken into account. These companies which go in for fish farming never pay the farmer the price for this very serious environmental degradation. The farmer not being very educated, doesn't know what risk he is taking. If tomorrow the demand goes down, all our farms will have to be closed down. These people cannot go back to paddy farming and that should be clearly understood. What is the demand for this product in the world market? There are all kinds of fluctuations. We cannot really expect a steady stream of income.

Another issue which comes up with this kind of shrimp farming is its impact on the mangroves in these coastal araeas. Mangroves play a certain ecological role. The land meets the sea at that point. These mangroves maintain the land structure. They balance the weather and protect the soil conditions. If you go in particularly for this kind of farming, it destroys the ecological balance in the coastal areas with serious implications on agriculture, on livelihood and other things. These issues have been raised by international experts.

A third kind of problem comes which should also be highlighted. If you go in for commercialisation of aquaculture, your focus is only on the shrimps. You take out a lot of other things, spawns of the other fish because immediately they are not usable for this particular purpose. You destroy them. So, while we .are gaining in terms of fish-farming, shrimp-farming, we are losing a lot in terms of farming other kinds of fish which could have been used for domestic consumption. This should be assessed and without assessing this, we should not simply say, because some employment is affected, we should take some action. The long-term implications on the other sections of the society should also be taken into consideration.

Then, there is an exaggerated view about the importance of fish farming for our exports. If you look at the data for fish and fish preparations as one record—there is no record for shrimp-farming in the figures which I have—there has been an increase in the amount earned from the export of fish and fish preparations. From something like 274 million dollars in 1980-81, it has increased to slightly more than one bilHon dollars in 1994-95. This is certainty an increase. But it is not

that substantial. Moreover, if you look at the proportion of Indian fish and fish preparations' export to all exports, it is one of the lowest. For example, it is only 1.8 per cent of the total world exports. In fact, it was two per cent in 1980 and there has been a decline in our share as far as shrimp exports are concerned. So, while I agree that foreign exchange should be earned, there is some exaggerated view about the importance of shrimp-farming. I want this to be scaled down so that we know what we have, so that there is no exaggerated view about shrimp-farming.

Lastly, the point I would like to make is this. For the time being I agree with this because 31st March is so near and we cannot afford to get whatever is there destroyed because it is difficult again for them to come back. I would suggest to the Minister one thing. We are passing this Bill. But as far as the existing shrimp farms are concerned in the coastal areas, please give an undertaking to us in this House **a** very clear undertaking, that within the next six months, all these fish farms would be examined case by case, in consultation with the people who understand our ecology. There is no point in inviting me or Mr. Narayanasamy for that. There have to be some experts on ecology to understand how the ecological balance is disturbed.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI): Why are you including Mr. Narayanasamy? He is an expert.

DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA: Well, I like him very much. That is the reason why I mention myself and him. There must be some experts who understand ecology. They should determine whether the ecological balance has been disturbed. If we fill this Authority with people who are only representing the industrial interests to which they belong, it will not serve the purpose. I think there should be members who are drawn from other sections of the society who understand the overall implications. Only then will it make some sense. And this Authority must go through all the existing farms, their positions, their conditions and all that, within the next six months so that those farms which are not in line with our environment, which are causing environmental degradation, are closed down, come what may. I might reduce production, foreign exchange or employment. They are all important in the short run. But in the long run, we cannot afford environmental degradation which is irreversible. So, a decision should be taken on this within six months. I would very much appreciate if the Minister is prepared to give an undertaking in the House. If he is giving that undertaking, I have no difficulty in supporting this Bill because I do not want also these employment and all that to be disturbed just now. Thank you very much.

SHRI R. MARGABANDU (Tamil Nadu): Thank you, Mr. Vice-Chairman. Sir, I strongly oppose this Bill as long as .....

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY (Pondicherry): As long as Mr. Chaturanan Mishra is the Agriculture Minister.

SHRI R. MARGABANDU: ..... as long as the second proviso to clause 12 sub-clause (6) is on the statute. It reads, "Provided further that nothing in this sub-section shall apply in the case of an aquaculture farm which is in existence on the appointed day." This runs contrary to the provisions of sub-clause (6) which says, "No licence shall be granted for aquaculture farming proposed to be carried out within two hundred metres from the High Tide Line:." As a matter of fact, there are suggestions that the distance should be 500 metres. According to (he Supreme Court judgement, the distance should be 1,000 metres. So, in sub-section (6) of clause 12 the distance of 200 metres should be substituted by 1,000 metres. If it is adopted, I welcome this Bill; otherwise, I am opposing this Bill. The reason why I say so is that there is a judgement delivered by the Supreme

Court. The Supreme Court judgement says that it is a method which causes salinity, sedimentation, health hazard beside spoiling drinking water. These are the four consideration which have been taken into consideration by the Supreme Court while delivering the judgement. The judgement of the Supreme Court is not a half-baked judgement. It has got a good basis. The reports examined by the Supreme Court include the Alagirisamy Report submitted at the conference of the Food and Agricultural Organisation, the two reports by the National Environmental Engineering Institute, Justice Surcsh's Report and the United Nations Survey. These are the reports on the basis of which the judgement was delivered,

Sir, from the Statement of Objects and Reasons it leems that this Bill is Introduced with a purpose to get away from the clutches of the Supreme Court judgement. One aspect it accepted. The Supreme Court hat suggeited the constitution of an authority, This Bill has been Introduced for that purpose, I will appreciate the hon, Agriculture Minister's Intelligence in drafting this Bill and explaining things. I will come to it a little later. The Bill Is not introduced with a good intention at all. It is with an Intention to overcome the Supreme Court judgment, This BUI Is a sugar°eoated pill. I ean say that. This is what he has stated in the Statement of Objects and Reasons, "Since it is necessary to validate all coastal aquaculture farms set up hitherto retrospectively". Here comes the mischief. Whatever mischief has been done by the big monopolistic persons,
who are having this aquaculture on the coastal areas, is validated. It is not the small farmers who are having one or two acres, but big monied people, big companies who are having thousands of acres on the coastal areas, whoi&re going to be benefited. In Andhra gradesh the area extends up to 25 miles into the interior land from the coastal area. The same is the case in Tamil Nadu, in Kerala and in Maharashtra. In all these States

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the saline water, when , it is stored, percolates into an area to the extent of 10 miles to 15 miles. The result is that in the coastal areas, an area up to 100 miles becomes unfit for cultivation. The saline water percolates into the interior. With the saline water it is not possible to do any cultivation, either paddy or anything. Therefore, it will do a great injustice to the people. The big monied people are purchasing the land at a high cost displacing the agriculturists from that area. In Mayavaram area of Tamil Nadu there was a massive agitation. One Jagannathan had filed a public interest litigation before the Supreme Court. These situation are not taken care of. I would like to know whether the Government wants to support the bigwigs by way of this Bill. Who are behind this Bill? I would like to know whether those people who are going to face the demolition of aequaeulture are supporting this and whether they are behind this Bill, I would also like to know whether the Government would support those people whs are rendering the land unfit for cultivation, so long ai this proviso is there, it will justify the injustice that is done to the agriculturists, A great injustice has already been done te the agriculturists. It is only because ef this the Supreme Court had come in the way and we are talking of judicial activism. In a way it will protect environment situation also, But this sort of a thing will help some bigwigs and moneyed persons who are backing this Government, My party will not accept it, Mr. Vice* Chairman, Sir, I appeal to the Minister te remove Clause 12 (6) proviso II from the Statute, Then alone a good spirit will be
exhibited in this Bill.

I would like to say one more thing. The hon. Minister has mentioned that about three lakh persons will be rendered homeless. But on the other hand in Gause 10(2) it is mentioned:

> "Where the Authority orders for removal or demolition of any aquaculture farm under clause (d)

of sub-section (1), the workers of the said farm shall be paid compensation in accordance with the provisions of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947."

So the persons who would be rendered jobless or who would be thrown out of jobs, their interest has been safeguarded by the hon. Minister.

I appreciate the hon. Minister for this provision, Then there is another provision that before the demolition they will be given a hearing. This is a principle of natural justice. The hon. Minister has bestowed his thought while drafting this Bill. But this mischief has to be removed. So long as it is there, it will be doing injustice to the common man and we will be supporting only the moneyed people. It will not help the common man. It will not protect environment. At the same time, I would like to appeal to the Minister of Environment to bring a Bill for containing water pollution. Tanneries and dyeing factories and other factories which are releasing water which is affecting the agricultural land. If the Environmental Minister comes forward with such a Bill, in which case this Bill will be very good. It will be appreciated. At the moment there is a bad Bill with a bad taste, That IInd proviso to sub clause 6 to clause 12 has to be removed. Then alone it will be giving a good taste. I oppose this Bill so long as it is on Statute.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TRJLOK1 NATH CHATURVEDI): Mr. Margabandu, at the moment the Minister wants your support, not your appreciations. The Deputy Chairperson has already requested the Minister to consider bringing wider issues subsequently before this House.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I will be very brief. The hon. Minister has come forward with this Bill in accordance with the direction of the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court has directed that an Aquaculture Authority shall be established to regulate aquaculture farming in coastal areas. In fact I raised this issue in the august House by way of a Special Mention. As I mentioned earlier, there is 8,500 acres of land on which the farming community is depending, which is giving foreign exchange to the tune of Rs. 3,000 crores to the Government of India., Therefore, this area has to be taken care of. Several delegations, especially from the States of Orissa, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and also some parts of Gujarat and coastal areas of Maharashtra, met the hon. Minister and also the hon. Prime Minister. When the aquaculture activities were started by the farming community and also by the people in this trade, neither the Central Government nor the State Government regulated these activities. What happened was, the countries like Taiwan said, "We have got an excellent technology which we would like to give to your country. "Some farmers and all those people who export prawn went to this country, In the normal ponds in which they used to culture prawn, they used to get 2,5 to 3 metric tonnes of prawn per hectare. Under this new system, by putting more seeds in the pond, by intensively culturing it and by using the seeds which had been Imported, they lost everythlng. In Andhra Pradesh, there was a viral attack. Even Orissa had it. The farming community suffered heavily. NABARD and various other banks invested huge amounts in this when the business was booming. After that the farmers went in for intensive cultivation. Sir, the Bill is laudable. Yesterday, we passed the National Environment Appellate Authority Bill. We find that it has become a practice to accommodate retired bureaucrats and retired judges of the Supreme Court and High Courts in these Authorities. The hon. Minister, who is a senior leader, should see that the people who are appointed are well qualified people. By just appointing retired persons, you will not achieve anything. You may help somebody who is

just out of the Department of Environment or the judiciary. But you will not be doing your job as envisaged in this Bill. Sir, I know that there are saline areas along the coast-line which cannot be used for cultivation. But we have to make use of this land. We should also have a mechanism to protect the environment. The people who live near these saline areas are Harijans, the Scheduled Castes, the villagers and the backward people. What is their living condition? No doubt, they get employment. But they do not get drinking water because the entire area is saline. People come there and make huge investments and also make a lot of money. But the employees are not paid regularly. Therefore, protection should be given to the employees who are working there. The people who make huge profits—some of them own 100 hectares and 200 hectares of land here—are not doing anything for the purpose of protecting the environment. Therefore, the situation there has come to this stage. I would like to seek certain clarifications from the hon. Minister. I have already brought an amendment. I want that the State representation should be increased to 5 members from 2 members. We have nine coastal States and they have to be represented adequately. Otherwise, only the views of the bureaucrats will prevail and not the views of the State Governments. Therefore, I want that this should be taken care of. Especially the bigger States like Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and Orissa should be adequately represented. Therefore, I request the hon. Minister to consider my amendment and increase the representation of the States from two members to five members. The hon. Minister is blowing hot and cold...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI): We have to keep in view the time allotted.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: I am going to be very brief. You may have noticed that I am not gong out of the subject. I would just like to make two, three small points and then I will conclude. Mr. Minister, I could not understand your intentions. You are a labour leader. We would like to know whether you are treating the employees as industrial workers or as agricultural workers. If the pond is demolished on the orders of the Authority for violating environmental laws, you will have to pay compensation under the Industrial Disputes Act. If they are working in the pond they should be' paid as agricultural labourers. What is the difference? What is the analogy? They should be paid either as industrial workers or as labourers who are working in agricultural fields even if the pond is demolished. You should take bold steps because NABARD is investing Rs. 4,000 crores and Rs. 2,000 crores have been invested by the banks. You tell them that this is an industry because people are earning money out of it. Then you bring the industrial law. It is still the CPI policy, it is neither here nor there and you are announcing the Bill.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI): You address the Chair. He will give a convincing answer.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Sir, I am commenting on the Minister's Bill. The Minister is the author of the Bill. He is piloting the Bill. Therefore, I am saying this. You should have a clear-cut policy, not like the CPI. Sir, the proviso that has been given in Clause 12, Subsection 6 says:

> "Provided that in case of creeks, rivers and backwards, no such licence shall be granted within the Coastal Regulation Zone declared for the time being under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986."

By bringing this Bill you wanted to restrict the coastal regulation zone from 500 metres to 200 metres. Why? You tell

most of the ponds are near the creeks or the river side. It is not on the coastal side, most of them are not on the coastal side. Therefore, I need certain clarifications on this point. Sir, the hon. Member, Shri Margabandu, has mentioned that it is a very serious thing. Yes, we have to protect the existing ponds. It is a fact because the Supreme Court has come heavily on that. The farming community has to be protected. Is it not the duty of the Ministry or this Bill to regulate the working ponds by making them apply and get licence? It has to be done. If they don't do it, then there is pollution on the one side and the new ponds that are coming will have to adhere to the rules. I do not know what is in the Minister's mind. The existing ones also have to pass through the test. There should also be a licence. You give them a time-frame by which they can complete the formality. That is also to be done. Therefore, Mr. Minister, there are so many lacunae in the Bill. You brought this Bill in haste to satisfy the farming community; I welcome it. But there are lacunae which I want you to go through and you give an assurance on the floor of the House that you will remove the anomalies and then bring amendments in the coming session of the Parliament, not in the month of June. Please bring the amendments in the month of April and thereafter rectify all the anomalies. Thank you.

श्री जलालुदीन अंसारी (**बिहार**): उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय,मैं इस बिल का समर्थन करने के लिए खड़ा हुआ हैं ।

उपसभाध्यक्ष(श्री त्रिलोकी नाथ चतुर्वेदी): वैसे आपका एक मिनट हैं ।

श्री जलालुदीन अंसारी: उपसभाध्यक्ष जी,सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने जो जजमेंट दिया,उसी को ध्यान में रखते हुए यह बिल लाया गया है । जो एक्वाकल्चर में काम करने वाले वर्कर है,वह करीब तीन लाख है जो बेरोजगार हो जाते । उनको राहत देने के लिए यह बिल लाया जा रहा है । मुझे एक दो सुझाव देने है । सेक्शन 12 में लाइसेंस देने की बात कहीं गई है । मेरा सुझाव होगा माननीय मंत्री जी से कि लाइसेंस देने की प्रक्रिया आसान होनी चाहिये । ऐसी प्रक्रिया नहीं हो कि जिससे लाइसेंस प्राप्त करने में लोगों को कठिनाई हो ।

5.00 P.M.

और बाधांए भी उपस्थित हो तो इसका ख्याल इस बिल में होना चाहिए । यह मेरा सुझाव होगा मंत्री जी से कि इसका ख्याल रखें कि प्रक्रिया लाइसेंस देने की सरल हो,आसान हो ।

दूसरी बात इसमें कही गयी है कि लाइसेंस तीन साल तक के लिए ही वैलिड होगा । मेरा सुझाव इसमें है कि तीन साल की बजाए इसको पांच साल तक वैलिड माना जाना चाहिए । इसकी पांच साल की सीमा निर्धारित होनी चाहिए । यह मेरी डिमांड है । जहां तक सवाल उठता है कि पर्यावरण को भी बचाया जाना चाहिए तो पर्यावरण की रक्षा निश्चित तौर पर होनी चाहि । लेकिन अभी पर्यावरण के नाम पर हमारे देश में इस तरह की बातें हो रही है कि शायद इससे बहुत सारा विकास का काम बंद हो जाएगा,बहुत सारे फार्म्स बंद हो जाएंगे,बहुत सारे काम बंद हो जाएंगे । तो हम समझते हैं कि सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने रिट पिटीशन पर जो जजमेंट दिया है और उन्होंने जो सरकार को निर्देश दिया है कि इसके लिए एक अलग बिल लाया जाए-एक्वाकल्चर अथारिटी जिसके जरिए उनको रेगुलेट किया जाए- उसके मुताबिक सरकार जो यह बिल लायी है यह सही है और मैं इस बिल का समर्थन करता हूं ।

شری جلیل الدین انصاری "بہار": اپ سبھا ادھیکش مہودے۔ میں اس بل کا سمرتھن کرنے کیلئے کھڑا ہوا ہوں۔

اپ سبھا ادھیکش "شری ترلوکی ناتھ چترویدی": ویسے آپکا ایک منٹ ہے

شری جلال الدین انصاری:اپ سبھا ادھیکش جی۔ سپریم کورٹ نے جو ججمینٹ دیا۔ اسی کو دھیان میں رکھتے ہوئے یہ بل لیا گیا ہے۔ جو ایکواکلچر میسن کام

†[]TransIiteration in Arabic ScriDt

کرنے والے ورکر ہیں۔ وہ قریب تین لاکھ ہیں جو بے روزگار ہو جاتے ہیں۔انکو راحت دینے کیلئے یہ بل لیا جا رہا ہے۔ مجھے ایک دو سجھاؤ دینے ہیں۔ سیکشن ۱۲ میں لائسنس دینے کی بات کہی گئی ہے۔ میرا سجھاؤ ہوگا مانننیہ منتری جی سے کہ لائسنس دینے کی پرکریہ آسان ہونی چاہیئے۔ ایسی پرکریہ نہیں ہو کی جس سے لائسنس حاصل کرنے میں لوگوں کو کٹھنائی ہو۔اور مشکلات بھی ہوں تو اسکا خیال اس بل میں ہونا چاہئے۔ یہ میرا سجھاؤ ہوگا منتری جی سے اسکا خیال رکھیں کہ پرکریہ لائسنس دینے کی آسان ہو "سرل ہو"۔ دوسری بات اسمیں یہ کہی گئی ہے کہ لائسنس ۳ سال تک کیلئے "ویلوڈ" ہوگا میرا سجھاؤ اسمیں ہے کہ ۳ سال کے بجائے اسکو "پانچ سال تک ویلیڈ" مانا جانا چاہئے اسکی ۵ سال کی حد متیعن ہونی چاہئے یہ میری ڈیمانڈ ہے۔ جہا تک سوال اٹھتا ہے کہ " پریاورن "کوبھی بچایا جانا چاہئے تو پریاورن کی رکشا نشچت روپ سے ہونی چاہئے۔لیکن ابھی پریاورن کے نام پر ہمارے دیش میں اسطرح کی باتیں ہو رہی ہیں کہ شاید اس سے بہت سارا وکاس کا کام بند ہو جائیگا۔ بہت سارے فارمس بند ہو جایئنگے۔ تو ہم سمجھتے ہیں کہ سپریم کورٹ نے رٹ پٹیشن پر جو ججمینٹ

دیا ہے اور انھوں نے جو سرکار کو نردیش دیا ہے کہ اسکے لئے ایک الگ بل لایا جائے۔ ایکواکلچر اتھارٹی جسکے ذریعہ انکو ریگولیٹ کیا جائے۔ اسکے مطابق سرکار جو یہ بل لائی ہے یہ سہیں ہے اور میں اس بل کا سمرتھن کرتا ہوں۔

"ختم شد"

उपसभाध्यक्ष(श्री त्रिलोकी नाथ चतुर्वेदी): श्री ईश दत्त यादव । आपका उनसे दुगना टाइम हैं ।

श्री ईश दत्त यादव(उत्तर प्रदेश)**:** ठीक है मान्यवर,हम दो ही मिनट में खत्म करेंगे ।

जल कृषि प्राधिकरण विधेयक,1977 का मैं समर्थन करता हूं । उच्चतम न्यायालय के निर्णय के कारण सरकार को जल्दी करनी पड़ी है । मैं धन्यवाद देना चाहता हूं कृषि मंत्री जी को कि समुद्र तट पर रहने वाले वे लोग जो जल कृषि पर आधारित है ऐसे लोगों की संख्या जो उन्होंने लगभग 3 लाख बतायी है,इन 3 लाख लोगों की जीविका शायद इस कानून से समाप्त होने से बच जाएगी ।

बहुत से माननीय सदस्यों ने कई सुझाव दिए हैं । मैं उनके विस्तार में नहीं जाना चाहता । केवल इतना ही अनुरोध करना चाहता हूं कृषि मंत्री जी से कि यह विधेयक पास हो रहा है लेकिन जो सुझाव आए है इन पर आप गंभीरता से विचार करके पुन: इस कानून में संशोधन करें वरना इससे हार्डशिप भी हो सकती है ।

प्रदूषण,पर्यावरण,आदमी की रोजी-रोटी और जिंदगी ये सब एक दूसरे से मिले हुए हैं । आदमी के जिंदा रहने के लिए प्रदूषण भी जरूरी हो गया है । बिना प्रदूषण के आदमी जिंदा भी नहीं रह सकेगा । अगर देश के सब कारखाने बंद कर दिए जाएं तो सारा विकास का प्लानिंग का काम ठप्प हो जाएगा और कारखानें अगर धुआं देते रहेंगे तो आदमी जिंदा भी नहीं बचेगा । यह बड़ी विषम परिस्थित है । कृषि मंत्री

जी का काम तो सीमित लगता है खेतीबाड़ी तक लेकिन मैं सरकार से चाहूंगा कि इस देश के अंदर प्रदूषण जो फैल रहा है इस प्रदूषण पर रोक लगाए और लोग रोजी रोटी से भी वंचित न हों,उनकी जीविका भी चलती रहे।

मैं समाप्त ही करूंगा । मैं कल एक उदाहरण दे रहा था कि हम उत्तर प्रदेश से आते हैं। लखनऊ में हजरत गंज एक जगह है । वहां से रेलवे स्टेशन तक सब आटो रिक्शा ही चलते हैं,दूसरा कोई साधन नहीं हैं स्टेशन जाने के लिए । जो लोग गए हैं उत्तर प्रदेश वे देखें होंगे। दिन में भी मान्यवर,खूब धूप रहती है उस समय भी आटो रिक्शा से इतना धुआं निकलता है कि अंधेरा सा छाया रहता हैं । सड़क के किनारे रहने वाले लोगों के लिए गंभीर समस्या हैं । लेकिन आटो रिक्शा बंद कर दिए जाएं तो चलाने वाले भूखों मर जाएंगे। उनका परिवार मर जाएगा। इसीलिए मैं सरकार से मांग कर रहा हूं कि प्रदूषण,पर्यावरण और आदमी की जिंदगी और जीविका इन सबका समन्वय करने के लिए उसे गंभीरता से विचार करना चाहिए। और इसके उपाय करने चाहिए और मैं कृषि मंत्री जी को धन्यवाद देना चाहूंगा कि माननीय उच्चतम न्यायालय के निर्णय का सम्मान भी हो रहा है और यह प्राधिकरण बन जाने से जो लोग जल कृषि पर आधारित है उनकी जीविका और उनका जीवन भी बच जाएगा।

इन्हीं शब्दों के साथ,मैं इस विधेयक का समर्थन कर रहा हूं। धन्यवाद।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI): Thank you, Ist Dutt Yadavji. Shri Yerra Narayanaswamy. Please conclude in two minutes.

SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY (Andhra Pradesh): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I support the Bill. The aquafarmers and workers of coastal States are lookine forward towards this Bill. I thank the hon. Prime Minister and the hon. Agriculture Minister for introducing this Bill.

The aquafarmers have invested mere than five thousand crores of rupees in aquafarming. In Andhra Pradesh itself more than two thousand crores of rupees have been invested. NABARD has given liberal loans. The scheduled banks have given loans for encouraging shrimp farming. Many small farmers have invested all their might in this activity. The Marine Products Export Develpoment Authority encourages people to earn more foreign exchange from exports. MPEDA also gives subsidies to farmers. The Andhra Pradesh Government gave land, to the landless and formed cooperative societies exclusively of fishermen for aquafarming. So, Sir, the existing aquafarming cannot be dismantled due to non-compliance of guidelines on environment. They must be given time to observe these guidelines.

Sir, in the Statement of Objects and Reasons it is stated that there are about three lakhs of workers. In Andhra Pradesh itself there will be about three lakhs of workers because throughout the coast-line a number of people are engaged in this activity—right from collecting seeds to farming. Lakhs of workers are there. I want to draw the attention of the Minister to the fact that many more workers are involved in this activity.

The other point is about licensing. Now there are small farmers as well as marginal farmers. Renewing a licence every three years is very difficult. As hon. Member, Shri Vayalar Ravi, has suggested, it should be five years. So far as safeguarding of the environment is concerned, I agree and there is no doubt that salinity has increased. Drinking water problem is there in the sea-coast area and brackish-water area. So, I have a suggestion to make to the

hon. Minister. Big farmers and corporate companies are there. Some cess should be collected from them for the welfare of people who are living in the coastal areas arid brackish water area, particularly for drinking water purposes. That may serve the welfare of the people.

Thank you, Mr. Vice-chairman.

श्री चतुरानन मिश्र: उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय,मैंने शुरू में ही कह दिया था कि इस विधेयक का,इस बिल का उद्देश्य सुप्रीम कोर्ट से टकराना नहीं है,उनके आदेशों को सही ढंग से लागू करने के लिए एक सुसम्मत प्रक्रिया स्थापित करना हैं । Hon. Margabandu said that this is not sugar coated and all that. Neither the sugar is coated nor is it without sugar. Everything is there written very clearly and you can understand that. The whole idea is that there were a large number of farms and their cases were never heard. The Authority will go into them one by one. But, the first priority will be ecology. We don't want it to, be destroyed because that it a thing which you cannot build and manufacture once it Is destroyed. So, that would be the guiding line. But, at the same time, all ecology is meant for human beings. Therefore, their miseries will be looked Into. That is why I have adopted this method. So, 1 request you to reconsider it.

Secondly, all hon. Members who participated in the debate supported this Bill. The Chair directed that after tome time I should bring some motion to discuss It. If the Authority is established and it works for some time* surely, I will have no objection. All of us can discuss this question. It concerns the whole country and I have no objection at all.

As regards setting up of a Parliamentary Committee, I don't think this is the time I should say that a Parliamentary Committee should be set up immediately, but Parliament is always sovereign. You can ask me anytime. I can appoint any committee. It is for Chair to decide if. Gerieraly, I have no objection on such things. During the course of the debate', two tor things have emerged. One is licence period. I will say about it when we take up clause by clause discussion, but if three years' time is less, then let it be five years. I have nothing to add.

As regards composition of the Authority, there are not bureaucrats only, as they are saying. Of course, a retired High Court judge will be there. A mwnner who is an expert in the field of aquaculture is there; a member who is an expert in the field of pollution controf is there; so you should not say that there are bureaucrats only. There is a member who is an expert in the field of envirormient protection and then we have the Ministry of Environment and Forests and the Ministry of Agriculture. The number of members from the .States can be increased, I don't have any objection to that, they will also be bureaucrats. The difference is they will be in service.

SHRI V. NABAYANASAMY: They will be appointed by the State Governments. If the Central Government appoints bureaucrats, then why not the State Governments?

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: I am not for bureaucrats. I told you that these are all experts. Three scientists will be there. But, these are not such vital things on which We should differ. If that is the position, then I will accept that also.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVED1): Hon. Minister, Mr; Narayahasamy is free With so many suggestions.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: I have already said that when we discuss it, everything will be replied properly. So, this is all what I wanted to say. As the time is short, I finish my speech.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI): The Minister has responded to various
suggestions

SHRI V.NARAYfANASAMYf? Very briefly, Sir.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TRILOKJ NATH CHATURVEDI): Yes, he has been very precise.

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: Today the rules for an appropriate reply have also been relaxed.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI): The question is:

> "That the Aquaculture Authority Bill, 1997 be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI): We shall ' now take up clasue by clause consideration of the Bill.

Clause 2 was added to the Bill

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI): On dame 3, there it an amendment by Shri V. Narayanasamy.

CLAUSE ^(ESTABLISHMENT OF THE AUTHORITY AND APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRPERSON AND MEMBERS)

SHRI V, NARAYANASAMY: Sir, I move;

1. "That at page 1, line 3, *for* the werld "two" the werd "five" be *substituted,"*

The question was proposed,

SHRI V. NARAYANAIAMY: Sir. I have already speken en the amendment, I want to Inform the hen. Minister that there are nine States where this aquaculture farming is going en.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI): But, you are not pressing for your amendment.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Sir, I am pressing for my amendment.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Instead of two, you want four?

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Five.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: How can it be five? There should be an odd number for voting.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Okay, you give four and I will be content.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: I agree to that suggestion.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: If the Minister bargains, what can I do. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI): Are you withdrawing your amendment?

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: No, Sir. Sir, I want representation for the States. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Sir, I have accepted his suggestion. ...It is just for four. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI): The question is:

> "That at page 3, line 3, for the word "two" the word "four" be substituted."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 3, as amended, was added to the Bill.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Sir, I thank the Minister,

Clauses 4, to 11 were added to the BUI,

THI YlCI-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI): There it me amendment te eiauie 12 in the name ef Shri Veyalar Ravi,

Claue 121 Lieenm for aquaeulture farming.

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Sir, I move:

> "That at page 5, line 11, for the words "three years", the words "five years" be substituted."

The question was proposed.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Sir, I accept the amendment.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI

TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI): The question is:

"That at page 5, line 11, for the words "three years", the words "five years" be substituted."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 12, as amended, was added to the Bill,

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Sir, CP1 is always flexible. The CPM is not flexible. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Sir, Now he should withdraw his eomment about the CPM. ... *(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI): It was not a eomment, ... *(Interruptions)*,. It was a tribute that he paid. ... *(Interruptions)*,.. How responsive the Minister is! ...*(Interruptions)*,,.

DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA; He has deng it only now beeause a man has been nominated on the Board from Tamil Nadu. : = = *(Interruptions)*...

THI V1C&CHAIRMAN (SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI)! The Minister has aeeepted two amendments. ...*(Intenupums)*,.

IHRI V, NARAYANAiAMY: one from Kerala and one from Tamil Nadu! ..*ftiuempmns)*...

Clauset IB to 14 were aided is the Bills

Clause I, the Mnaetmg Formula and the Title were added m the Bill.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA; Sir, t move that the Bill, as amended be passed.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

IMPROVED PEOPLE-TO-PEPOLE CONTACTS WITH PAKISTAN

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL):

As honourable Members are aware, lndo-Pakistan official level talks at Foreign Secretary level are due to be held from March 28 to 31 in New Delhi. Talks at a higher level are also expected thereafter. We approach these talks in a positive and constructive spirit.

As honourable Members would have noticed, Pakistan has announced its decision to release 38 Indian children who have been under detention in Pakistan since 1994. We appreciate this gesture. These children were /travelling on Indian fishing vessels which were apprehended by Pakistani authorities over two years ago. We have made many representations on their behalf and I had raised the Issue with Foreign Minister Sahabiada Yakub Khan when I met him on December 18,1996 in New Delhi. It is a matter of satisfaction that Pakistan has now responded positively, and steps have already been initiated by us to ensure that the children are brought from Pakistan to India at the earliest. May 1 also convey our deep gratitude to Maulana Abdul Sattar Idhi who has taken good care of them for over a year and a half while they were lodged in the Idhi Centre in Karachi.

As honourable Members are aware, travel by Pakistani nationals to India, under a reciprocal arrangement with Pakistan, is permitted only on the basis of visiters visa. These visas are meant essentially for visits to meet close relations. This is obviously very restrictive. In keeping with our policy to promote peeple=to=people¡ relations, we have decided to permit Pakistani tourists to visit India in groups. This, as honourable Members will agree, is a major new unilateral step in the right direction. In addition, we have also decided to ease travel by Pakistani businessmen to India. They will now be eligile to one year multi-entry visa and, if travelling by air, they can exit and enter either through Mumbai or Delhi. The other measures we will implement are:

(i) Young and elderly Pakistani visitors will be exempt from police

reporting. This will give them relief from what can be a troublesome requirement.

(ii) Visa fees for senior Pakistani citizens will be waived.

(iii) The number of religious shrines in India which can be visited by Pakistani pilgrims will be increased.

(iv) Expansion of cultural contacts between the two countries will be encouraged through exchanges of cultural groups, artistes, poets and writers, Visits by students and journalists will also be encouraged. All these categories will be exempt from visa fees.

(v) Free flow of books and periodicals establishes better appreciation of each other, Therefore, India will unilaterally permit their import in keeping with our general policies.

The measures that I announce today are designed to add to the goodwill between the peoples of the two countries. They are an emblem of our earnest desire to establish end maintain relations of friendship and cooperation with our neighbour Pakistan. I am confident that this gesture on our part will have the support of Hon'ble Members.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI): Now, I have a 'fairly large number of names here of hon. Members who want to seek clarifications. My only request is that it would be better if the clarifications are in the form of only questions.

SHRI JOHN. F. FERNANDES: He is not here. Dr. Biplab Dasgupta.

DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA (West Bengal): Sir, I do not have much to say' on this.

In fact, I congratulate the Foreign Minister for taking the initative for improving our relations with Pakistan. It might look as being unilateral, but, at the same time, 1 feel, as such an initiatives has succeeded in improving our relations with Bangladesh, I am sure that it may generate a good response from the other side. My experience outside the country has always been that whenever I came across any Pakistani, either individually or even collectively, we have always received nothing but warmth from them. There is so much which unites us, India and Pakistan. The language is certainly one of the factors. There are cultural ties and so many other things. I think, it is important for us that our relations with Pakistan should be improved. In fact, after we have succeeded In improving our relations with Bangladesh, Nepal, Sri Lanka and several other countries, the initiative for improving our relations with Pakistan should not have been delayed so long. Therefore, 1 am very glad that the initiative has been taken.

1 only want to know from the Foreign Minister whether, in this Foreign Secretary level meeting which is being held between the 28th and the 31st of March, In addition to the issues like these, we are also going to take up the question of the SAFTA for economic co-operation and whether there is any possibility of going Into the question of having the same economic arrangement with Pakistan which we have entered into with Bangladesh, I would very much like to know this,

I have nothing more to add,

I congratulate the Foreign Minister for taking the initiative.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI): Mr. M.A. Baby. He is not here.

Mr. Pranab Mukherjee.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE (West Bengal): Thank you, Mr. Vice-Chairman.

I hope that this statement of the hon. Minister, particularly when we are going to have the official-level discussions with

Pakistan from the 28th of March, would create the right type of atmosphere to hold the talks in a spirit of appreciation and cordiality.

Sir, it is well know to all of us that during the last five decades our relation with Pakistan has undergone many changes. Despite our desire to have good neighbourly relations, unfortunately, because Of various factors, it could not be so. Though there were some gestures, official level talks could not resume for quite some time. With the establishement of the new Government, with the success of the experiments with democratic forces in Pakistan, when the new Prime Minister of Pakistan indicated that he would like to normalise the relationship, the resposne from India was quite encouraging.

One of the most important elements in today's diplomacy is people-to-people relationship. If we can expand, what is called, the second-channel diplomacy, if we can build it up, then, it helps to soften the official positions which officials cannot do formally because of lack of proper appreciation. This approach has paid dividends in improving our relations with our neghbouring countries. I remember that in early 1990s when meetings were held between the Chambers' of Commerce of Bangladesh and India, that, to a great extent, paved the way for expanding the commercial relations between these two countries.

The same approach should be adopted with Pakistan. On an umpteen number of occasions we have shared our views on how to expand our relations. I am not passing on the blame to anybody. But, unfortunately, it did not happen. Therefore, this is a good gesture, I must say, to declare unilaterally that we are taking some positive steps. These positive steps are basically to help Pakistani citizens who want to come to India.

In this connection, I would like to draw the attention of the Minister to one thing. He has exempted particularly young and old visitors from reporting to police stations. Earlier they were to report to the police on their arrival. This was a really unfortunate situation. If we can improve our intelligence collection and if our law-enforcing machinery is strong enough, it could be gradually extended to every visitor. This would be desirable. But, perhaps, with expansion of undesirable activities by some intelligence agencies, it was not possible for the Minister to extend this to all categories of visitors. It is a good gesture that he has exempted the young and old visitors from reporting to the local Police authorities. I do hope it will be appreciated.

Similarly, the exchange of cultural troupes encouraging cultural programmes between the two countries will also go a long way.

On one point I would like him to be a little careful. That is about the import of books and literature from Pakistan. I have no objection if a large number of books and literature from Pakistan come to India, but if that route is utilised by others for bringing in books and literature from the third countries, then the whole objective would be lost. So, I think detailed rules and other things are to be worked out there.

I do hope this would be responded positively by well-intentioned citizens of Pakistan. They will appreciate it in the right spirit and it will create a proper atmosphere.

I cannot expect that ice will be broken in one round of negotiations, but even if we can make a small beginning, it will help us, because it is clearly admitting the old maxim that one should not sit at the negotiation table in fear. But, at the same time, one should not be afraid of sitting at the negotiation table to exchange views and ideas. On the eve of resumption of

talks between the two countries at the official level, this, is a good gesture. I do hope it will be appreciated by all concerned, particularly by our friends in Pakistan in the right spirit.

SHRI K.R. MALKANI (Delhi): Sir, it is good that 38 Indian children have returned. I know the Edhi Foundation is doing excellent work here. But, I do not feel very comfortable with some of the things that the hon. Minister has mentioned here. He has referred to visa fees. This is a very minor thing. Nobody bothers about the visa fees these days.

You have said that young and elderly Pakistani visitors will be exempt from reporting to the police. I can understand that. But, I think, women can also be exempted from reporting to the police.

However, I feel there is too much of unilateralism in this. We are going to start with Pakistani tourists being given group visas. Taking initiative for some time is understandable, but, if Pakistan does not respond, we will have to consider withdrawing these concessions.

The hon. Minister also says that the number of religious shrines in India, which can be visited by Pakistani pilgrims, will be increased. What are these places, we would like to know. To the best of my knowledge, there is Ajmer and then there is Haj in Assam. I have never heard of any third place of any religious significance for Muslims.

Since the hon. Minister has decided on this, let him give a trial for three months. Let us see whether Pakistan responds. If it does not respond, we might have to give another thought to this. That is all I have to say.

DR. M. ARAM (Nominated): Sir, I very warmly welcome the hon. Minister's statement and support the various steps he has outlined.

During my visits to Pakistan, I found for myself an enormous goodwill, particularly at the people-to-people level.

different countries, we have one people with one culture.

I would like to know from the hon. Minister to clarify whether the various groups that he has mentioned could be further expanded. There are student groups and youth groups. Many NGOs are working for peace and amity between Pakistan and India. I would like to know whether these groups will be included. For instance, there is a World Conference on Religion and Peace. I happened to be actively associated with it for many years. They have helped in inter-religious goodwill meetings. If there is further expansion, then, it would help. I would like to suggest that on the 50th anniversary of our Independence, on the golden jubilee celebrations of our Independence, there can be intensified joint programmes. Thus the goodwill generated from these joint programmes can be further augmented. I would request the hon. Minister to comment on it. I again congratulate the hon. Minister and warmly welcome his statement. Thank you.

डा.महेश चन्द्र शर्मा(राजस्थान)**:** धन्यवाद उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय,मैं थोड़ी देर से आया था तो मैं हिन्दी में पहले पढ़ने लगा । हिन्दी में लिखा है"हमने पाकिस्तानी पर्यटकों को काफिलों में भारत आने की इजाजत देने का फैसला किया है । माननीय सदस्य इस बात से सहमत होंगे कि सही दिशा में एक प्रमुख,नया द्विपक्षीय कदम है ।"महोदय,जब मल्कानी जी ने कहा "यूनीलैंट्रल" तो मैंने अंगेजी में देखा । मुझे लगा कि यह गलती क्यों हो गयी ? हिन्दी में लिखा है कि " द्विपक्षीय कदम है" और अंग्रेजी में लिखा है "यूनीलेट्रल" ।

उपसभाध्यक्ष(**श्री त्रिलोकी नाथ चतुर्वेदी**): मेरे ख्याल से यह टेपाग्राफिकल ऐरर है,ट्रांसलेशन की,अनुवाद की गलती है ।क्योंकि यूनीलैट्रल कहा था...

डा.महेश चन्द्र शर्मा: महोदय,ऐसी गलती विदेश मंत्रालय से न हो तो अच्छा है । मान्यवर,पाकिस्तान के साथ जब भी हम लोग चर्चा करते हैं,बातचीत करते हैं तो हमारा एक अनुभव है और वह अनुभव है कि भारत सदैव ही एक पक्षीय सद् भाव से आगे बढ़ते हैं। वह

सचित स्तरीय वार्ता हो रही है और वार्ता से पहले माननीय विदेश मंत्री सदन से चर्चा कर रहे हैं । मैं समझता हूं कि माननीय विदेशी मंत्री और विदेश मंत्रालय इस बात से निश्चित रूप से वाकिफ होंगे कि हम इस एक पक्षीयता को द्विपक्षीयता में कैसे बदलें ? इसके लिए कुछ विशेष चिंतन और सोच-विचार की आवश्यकता हैं । अभी नयी-नयी सरकार पाकिस्तान में आयी हैं । मुझे मालूम नहीं कि यह एकपक्षीय सद् भाव का प्रदर्शन करने की हमें क्या जरूरत पड़ी हैं? मैं विदेश मंत्री जी से जानना चाहूंगा कि क्या दूसरे पक्ष से हमें कोई ऐसे संकेत मिले हैं जिन संकेतों को हम इस सद् भाव में रिसपोंड करना चाहते हैं ? यदि वह संकेत मिले हैं तो हमें रिसपांड करना ही चाहिए । इसमें जो प्रावधान रखें है,यह निश्चय ही अभिनंदनीय है । साहित्य का आवागमन,पत्र-पत्रिकाओं का आवगमन,लोगों का आवागमन जितना सरल हो,जितना सुगत हो,उतनी मात्रा में । यह जो गलती विभाजन की हुई,उस गलती को हम दुरूस्त कर सकते हैं । लेकिन मान्यवर,मुझे मालूम है कि कितने ही ऐसे लोग है जो भारत में रहते हैं,जिनके पूर्वज पाकिस्थान में थे,जिनके तीर्थ पाकिस्तान में है और यदि वह आज वहां तीर्थ यात्रा करने जाएं-विदेश मंत्री जी को मैंने खुद एक पत्र लिखा था कि नितान्त वयोवृद्व व्यक्ति जिनके गुरू पाकिस्तान में रहते हैं और जिनकी यहां मृत्यु होने वाली है,वह एक बार वहां जाना चाहते है और उनको वीजा प्राप्त नहीं हो पा रहा है- तो एक और हम काफिलों को वीजा देने का अपनी ओर से आग्रह कर रहे हैं और दूसरी ओर एक बयोद्दि आदमी वहां जाना चाहता है,उसको वीजा नहीं मिलता है । तो मान्यवर,ऐसे सद् भाव की एकपक्षीयता समझ नहीं आती । मैं आशा करता हूं कि विदेश मंत्री जी इसका स्पष्टीकरण करेंगे ।

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY (PONDICHERRY): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, the statement made by the hon. Minister of External Affairs is welcome. It is a step for the purpose of improving our relations with Pakistan. I know that the hon. Minister is a good friend of Pakistan. As for the issues and the good gesture which the hon. Minister has showed, we have no quarrel about them. The hon. Minister has said that high-level talks, at the official level, are going to be held between 28th March and 31st March this year. I would like to know from the agenda fixed for the high-level talks at the Secretaries' level. I do not want to vitiate the atmosphere now. But I would like to tell the hon. Minister the apprehension in my mind. Several times official talks, high-level talks, were held and they failed because of one reason that Pakistan tried to bring the issue of Kashmir. Therefore, I would like to know what the agenda, a mutually agreed agenda, is. Or, is there any pre-condition for high-level talks between the Government of India and the Government of Pakistan? No doubt, the Prime Minister of Pakistan is a new Prime Minsiter and he has also given a very good account of the talks between both the countries. We do hope that Pakistan Government will respond positively. I know that because of the strained relationship, even in getting a Visa, there have been difficulties for the people of Indian origin and they could not go there to meet their family members. There were a lot of difficulties. Some of those people approached us also for telling the hon. Minister. In some cases, the husband is there and the wife is living htfre. She could not get the Visa to go to Pakistan. It is very serious matter. Therefore, I would like to know whether the hon. Minister will use his good offices to convince the Pakistan Government that in genuine cases, Visa cannot be denied for the Indian people to go to Pakistan to meet their family members. I want the hon. Minister to respond to these two important points. Thank you.

SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN (KARNATAKA): Sir, I welcime this historic decision in the 50th year of our Independence. I must congratulate the hon. Minister on his bold decision, a unilateral decision. The decision is welcome throughout the country. A new chapter has started....

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI):

Prime Minister of Pakistan has responded very well. And I am sure that this beginning by India will go a long way in building up the relationship between the two countries and removing the differences which we have got. By our unilateral decision, I am sure, all the problems- between the two countries can be solved. If we maintain this spirit,' I am sure that it will force Pakistan also to respond to the gesture which our couniry has made. I once again congratulate the hon. Minister on this gesture.

श्री जलालुद्दीन अंसारी(बिहार): उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय,सबसे पहले मैं माननीय विदेश मंत्री जी को हार्दिक धन्यवाद देना चाहता हूं कि उन्होंने भारत की तरफ से पाकिस्तान के साथ संबंधों को सुदृढ़ बनाने के लिए पहल की है । पाकिस्तान के जो नये प्रधान मंत्री बने है उन्होंने एलान किया और इच्छा जाहिर की है कि हम भारत के साथ संबंध सुधारना चाहते हैं । इस बारे में विदेश सचिव के स्तर पर 28 मार्च से 31 मार्च तक दिल्ली में वार्ता होने जा रही है । साथ ही साथ दो वर्षो से हमारे बच्चे पाकिस्तान में...

उपसभाध्यक्ष(श्री त्रिलोकी नाथ चतुर्वेदी): अंसारी साहब बात आप ठीक कह रहे हैं लेकिन क्लेरिफिकेशन पूछने के लिए नौ नाम और अभी बाकी हैं ।

श्री जलालुद्दीन अंसारी: ठीक है । उन बच्चों की रिहाई के लिए जो प्रयास हमारे माननीय मंत्री जी ने किया है उसके लिए में माननीय मंत्री जी को धन्यवाद देता हूं । उनकी सरकार ने अपनी पहल से बच्चों की रिहाई के लिए ऐलान किया है इस पर मैं यह कहना चाहूंगा कि इन दो सरकारों के स्तर पर संबंध में सुधारे जाने के प्रयास का मैं स्वागत करता हूं । लेकिन सबसे बड़ी बात तो यह है कि भारत और पाकिस्तान की जनता के बीच जो संबंध बनेंगे वे संबंध ज्यादा मजबूत होंगे । हमारे मन में यह आंशका बनी रहती है कि हम तो अपनी ओर से पहल कर रहे हैं लेकिन वहां की सरकार हमारी पहल को ठुकरा देगी तो हमारे प्रयास का क्या होगा । देखा यह गया है कि अगर दो देशों की जनता के बीच की मैत्री मजबूत होती है और अगर उस देश की सरकार नहीं भी चाहती है तो जनता उसके लिए उस देश में संघर्ष भी करती है । दो देशों की जनता के बीच मैंत्री बनी रहेगी तो हम समझते हैं जो इन्होंने घोषणाएं की हैं कि छात्रों और पत्रकारों की टोली आयेंगी,कलाकार,कवि और लेखक भी आयेंगें तो इससे लगता है कि दोनों देशों की जनता के बीच जो संबंध बनेंगे वे काफी महत्वपूर्ण होंगे । हमारे माननीय विदेश मंत्री जी ने दो देशों की जनता के बीच में जो संबंध सुधारे है वे और भी महत्वपूर्ण बनें । इस दिशा में उनके और क्या-क्या प्रयास होने वाले हैं इसकी जानकारी भी हमें देने का प्रयास करें ।

†**شری جلال الدین انصاری "بہار"**: اپ سبھا پتی ادھیکش مہودے۔ سب سے پہلے میں مانئیہ ودیش منتری جی کو "ھاردک بدھائی" دینا چاہتا ہوں کہ انھونے بھارت کی طرف سے پاکستان کے ساتھ تعلقات بنانے کیلئے پہل کی ہے۔ پاکستان کے جو نئے پردھان منتری بنے ہیں انھونے اعلان کیا اور خواہش ظاہر کی ہے کہ ہم بھارت کے ساتھ تعلقات بہتر کرنا چاہتے ہیں ۔ اس بارے میں "ودیش سچیو" کے استر پر ۲۸ سے ۳۱ مارچ تک دلی میں وارتا ہونے جارہی ہے۔ ساتھ ہی ساتھ دو سالوں سے ہمارے بچے پاکستان میں...

اپ سبھا ادھیکش "شری ترلوکی ناتھ چترویدی": انصاری صاحب بات آپ ٹھیک کہہ رہے ہیں۔ لیکن کلیری فیکیشن پوچھنے کیلئے ۹ نام ابھی اور باقی ہیں۔

شری جلال الدین انصاری: ٹھیک ہے ۔ ان بچوں کو رہائی کیلئے جوکوشیشیں ہمارے مانئیہ منتری جی نے کی ہیں اسکے لئے مانئیہ منتری جی کو دھنیہ واد دیتا ہوں۔

دیشا میں انکے اور کیا کیا پریاس ہونے والے ہیں اسکی جانکاری بھی وہ ہمیں دینے کا پریاس کریں۔

"ختم شد"

SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI (Rajasthan): Sir, I welcome the statement made by the hon. Minister. There are two ways by which the contacts between the people of the two countries can be established and which can prove to be very useful. Fifty years ago, when the Asian Relations Conference had taken place, India was not divided, and Pakistan had joined India us a united country in that conference. I would submit that the Asian Relations Conference opportunity .should be utilised for improving the relations between the two countries. Secondly, we welcome the relief given in visa fee. Very many unilateral and bold decisions arc iLtjuiivd to be taken so far as our relations with Pakistan are concerned. On tire eve of partition of India, Mahatma Gandhi had threatened that he would not seek visa to visit Pakistan. This is a far cry today. We cannot think of such a situation now. But I would like to urge upon the Minister that one must think of it. It may be implemented after five or *ten* years.

Thirdly, I would like to submit that the free flow of books and periodicals is very important and should be encouraged. Students from various countries are studying in our universities. Can the Government of India offer scholarships to them? It would prove to be a great thing if the students from Pakistan, who are studying in India, are given scholarsips. In this way, we will be able to develop contacts between the young generation which would prove to be very useful for future. I would like to say one more thing. Just now, I made a referent to the Asian Relations Conference. This is the SOth year of our independence and we should utilise this opportunity.

انکی سرکار نے اپنی پہل سے بچوں کی رہائی لیلئے اعلان کیا ہے اس پرمیں یہ کہنا چاہونگا کہ ان دوسرکاروں کے استر پر تعلقات بہتر بنا ئے جا نے کی کوششوں کا میں خیر مقدم کرتا ہوں۔ لیکن سب سے بڑی بات تو یہ ہےکہ بھارت اور پاکستان کی جنتا کے بیچ جو سمبندھ بنیگے وہ سمبندھ زیادہ مضبوط ہوگے۔ ہمارے من میں یہ آشنکا بنی رہتی ہے کہ اپنی عرف سے پہل کر رہے ہیں لیکن وہاں کی سرکار ہماری پہل کو ٹھکرا دیگی تو ہمارے پریاس کا کیا ہو گا۔ دیکھا یہ گیا ہےکہ دو دیشوں کی جنتا کے بیچ کی "میتری" مضبوط ہوتی ہے اور اگر اس دیش کی سرکار نہیں بھی چاہتی ہے تو جتنا اسکے لئے اس دیش میں سنگھرش بھی کرتی ہے۔ دو دیشوں کی جنتا کی میتری بنی رہے گی تو ہم سمجھتے ہیں جو انھوں نے گھوشنائیں کی ہیں کہ چھا تروں اور پتر کاروں کی ٹولی آیئنگی۔ کلاکار۔ کوئی اور لیکھک بھی آئینگے تو اس سے لگتا ہےکہ دونوں دیشوں کی جنتا کے بیچ جو سمبندھ بنیں گے وہ کافی مہتو پورن ہونگے۔ ہمارے ماننیہ ودیش منتری جی نے دو دیشوں کی جنتا کے بیچ میں جو سمبند سدھارے ہیں وہ اور بھی مہتوپورن بنیں۔ اس

Perhaps, the Minister might recollect that during Pandit Ii's time, the then President of Pakistan, Gulam Mohd. alongwith Dr. Khan and others, had visited India on the eve of 26th January. That had paved the way for strengthening the relationships between the two countries, which was not thought of at that time. 1 think this was the first time when anti-India feelings were not roused In Pakistan during the general eleeions. if the exchange of politicians and MPs can take place, it would help in creating a very healthy climate which was seen during the elections in Pakistan. Thank you.

उपसभाध्यक्ष(श्री त्रिलोकी नाथ चतुर्वेदी): श्री मोहम्मद सलीम । श्री ईशदत्त जी,आपका नाम बहुत पहले आया था,आप चले गए थे ।

श्री मोहम्मद सलीम(पश्चिमी बंगाल)**:** थैंक यू वेरी मच । पहले तो मैं मंत्री जी को मुबारकवाद देता हूं...

उपसभाध्यक्ष(श्री त्रिलोमी नाथ चतुर्वेदी): यह तो काफी हो चुका हैं ।

श्री मोहम्मद सलीम(पश्चिमी बंगाल)**:** वह मुबारकवाद के मुस्तहिक हैं । मेरे पास कुछ करेंट सजेंशस भी हैं ।

Seeause I am one of the people who are working at the grassreet level to improve eur relations with the neighbouring eeuntries: Please allow me to put questions;

पहला तो यह है कि जब मुल्क का पार्टिशन नहीं हुआ था,उस समय जो पोस्टल सिस्टम था वह दो देशों के बीच में था । अब यह तीन देश हो गए हैं,पाकिस्तान,बंगला देश आर इंडिया । लेकिन पोस्टल,पोस्ट कार्ड,लिफाफे पूरी दुनिया के लिए तमाम किस्मों के है और पाकिस्तान और बंगला देश के लिए दूसरे रेट के है । लेकिन इन 50 सालों के अन्दर नये ये फैक्स,आई.एस.डी., एए.मेल. ये नयी चीजें आई हैं । इनके जो रेट हैं वे कंसेशनल नहीं है। पुराने जमाने में मीडियम रेट थे और इससे एक दूसरे देश की जनता के साथ सम्पर्क करने के लिए कंसेशनल रेट थे । लेकिन नये दौर में जो ये तमाम किस्म की चीजें आई हैं इनमें कंसेशनल रेट्स नहीं हैं ।

If you want to really improve relations between the two countries, people-to-people relations.

तो आपको यह जो आई.एस.डी.हैं,इसमें भी एशियन कन्ट्रीज में यह होता है,नेबरिंग कन्ट्रीज के कम्युनिकेशन मिनिस्टर से कया आप बात करेंगे या नहीं ? ताकि वे टेलीफोन पर एक दूसरे के साथ बात कर सकें और जर्नलिस्ड भी कसेंशनल रेट पर अपनी बातों का आदान-प्रदान कर सकें । जैसे पोस्ट कार्ड और पत्रों के लिए हैं ।

दूसरा है कि आउटस्टैडिंग इश्यू बहुत हैं उनको आफ फारेन सेक्रेटरी लेबल पर लेंगे और बाद में जो ऊपर के तबके पर मीटिंग करेंगेय वह ठीक हैं । लेकिन यह हमें ध्यान में रखना पड़ेगा कि जो नई जनरेशन दोनों मुल्कों में आई है और वह जनरेशन 46 के फसाद और 47 की तकसीम से ज्यादा अहमियत रखते हैं आज जो टूरिज्म,ट्रेड,कामर्स,बिजनेस और ट्रांसपोर्ट में दो नजदीकती मुल्क आपस में तालमेल बिठाकर एक दूसरे की तरक्की में मदद कर सकें और वे आगे बढ़ सकें इसके लिए आपका वह कदम वाकई बहुत अच्छा है । इसलिए मैं समझता हूं कि 3.2 मैं जैसा आपने कहा है कि " VISa fees for senior pakistan citizens will be waived".उसमें आपयह भी क्यों नहीं करते हैं कि कार दि स्टुडैंट। यूथ एंड स्टुडेंट ।जैसा आपने आगे के कदम में रखा हैं ...(**व्यवधान**)...ग्रुप्स के बारे में तो है एक्सचेंज आफ ग्रुप्स होंगे,इंडिविजुअली भी आयेंगे...

SHRI LK QUJRAL: I aeeept it:

श्री मोहम्मद सलीम: थैंक यू । ताकि नयी जनरेशन को नयी दुनिया देखने का मौका मिले । आपने 3.3 में लिया है कि

"The flumbef of religious shrines in India whieh ian be visited by Pakistani pilgrims will be increased;"

1 suggest that apart from religious shrines, historical monuments, which we commonly shqre, both the countries, should also be included. Not only the religious shrines but the historical monuments also should be included.

ताजमहल हो या कुतुब मीनार हो या मुर्शिदाबाद के पैलेस हों । उसको भी आप कहेंगे कि देखों यह हमारा ट्रेडीशन है और एक साथ हम कामन हिस्ट्री शेयर करते हैं ।

So, you please include the historical monuments and the cultural centres also.

तीसरा है,जैसा आपने एक्सचेंज आफ ग्रुप किया है,वैसे आप आगे,यह थोड़ा लाउड थिंकिंग हो सकता है लेकिन हम कुछ फेयर एंड फेस्टिबल आर्गनाइज कर सकते हैं Whether we can also arrange some fairs and festivals to project our own culture, you can find it out. सांस्कृतिक ग्रुप के आदान-प्रदान के साथ-साथ फेर एंड फास्टेबल आर्गनाइज किए जा सकते हैं । जब जेस्चर आप दिखा रहे हैं और यूनीलेटरली दिखा रहे हैं,दोनों मुल्कों में ऐसे लोग हैं,लोग करीब आये वह नहीं चाहते । ऐसे तो बहुत से मुल्क है जो चाहते हैं कि सरकार करीब आए वह चाहते हैं लेकिन लोग करीब आ जायें ऐसा नहीं चाहते हैं । तो थोड़ा इधर-उधर आपके मानइर इरीटेशन तो रहेंगे । लेकिन यह बहुत अच्छा है और आप जो बिजनेस मैन के लिए रहे हैं कि मल्टी एन्ट्री वीसा should be valid for one year. उनको भी मल्टी एन्ट्री रहना चाहिए कुछ भी हा हो चाहे वह कैलामिटीज हो,चाहे पोलिटिकल एवेंट्स हो यहां के जर्नलिस्ट वहां जा सकते हैं । अभी यह जो पाकिस्तान के इलेक्शन हुए हैं इस इलेक्शन में जर्नलिस्ट के बड़ा इम्पार्टेन्ट रोल प्ले किया हैं । Why don't you include. at least. Journalists among others ?जो कुछ अखबार में निकला है उससे पता चलता है कि लोगों का मूड क्या है । इसलिए जर्नलिस्ट को भी अगर आप मल्टी एन्ट्री वीसा में इन्क्लूड कर देंगे तो वह ठीक रहेगा । बहुत से लोगों ने यह कहा है कि ...

उपसभाध्यक्ष(श्री त्रिलोकी नाथ चतुर्वेदी): आप सवाल पूछिए । और क्या कहते हैं यह आप छोड़ दीजिए । आठ नाम और हैं । मेहरबानी करके सवाल पूछिए ।

श्री मोहम्मद सलीम: हां,मैं वहीं कह रहा हूं । मैं संजेशन दे रहा हूं ।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI): It is a question of time, Mr. Salim.

SHRI MD. SALIM: I am not expanding I am quickly covering the points You will be happy to know this.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI): I will be happy to know what you say. But I am trying to accommodate all.

SHRI MD. SALIM: The Minister of External Affairs is involved in th» person-to-person talk,

पीपल टू पीपल रिलेशन पर सिटीज़न ग्रुप काम कर रहे हैं ।

They are active without any encouragement from the Government.

हमारे यहां तो थोड़ी-बहुत सहायता मिल जाती है,वहां पेटरोनेज नहीं मिलता है । लेकिन ऐसी शिकायत होती है कि हमारे यहां पर वहां के आर्टिस्ट आ कर के काम करते है लेकिन यहां पर वहां जा कर के काम क्यों नहीं कर सकते । अभी कलकत्ता में पाकिस्तानी सिटीज़स और इण्डियन सिटीज़स की पीपल टू पीपल कान्फरेंस हो रही थी तो वहां एक संवाददाता ने पूछा कि आपके मुल्क में हमारे आर्टिस्टों को परफार्म करने का मौका नहीं मिलता है लेकिन हमारे मुल्क में आपके आर्टिस्ट काम करते हैं । पाकिस्तान के कल्चरल विंग के एक्टीविस्ट ने बताया कि अभी कुछ दिन पहले पाकिस्तान में हमारे ही आर्टिस्टों को परफार्म करने की परमिशन नहीं थी,आप वहां जा कर के करने की बात कर रहे हैं । We are proud of our cultural system,our democratic heritage. हमें जेस्चर दिखाना पड़ेगा एक बड़े मुल्क के नाते,अपनी तहज़ीब और ट्रेडीशन के नाते और एक डेमोक्रेटिक सेट-अप के नाते । यह हमने बंगलादेश के साथ दिखाया है ,हमने नेपाल के साथ दिखाया है और हमारे जो दूसरे पड़ौसी मुल्क हैं वो करीब आने की कोशिश करेंगे उनके यहां फ्राम विदिन प्रेशनर तैयार होगा मैं मुबारकबाद देता हूं । हमें दिखाना पड़ेगा,हमें वह मिसासल कायम करनी पड़ेगी,शक्ति हमारे पास है । हम अगर करेंगे तो वह मुल्क भी एक कदम आगे बढ़ेगे । अगर उनको शक भी होगा,शुबहा भी होगा तो भी एक आधा कदम बढ़ने के लिए वह मजबूर होंगे । हम इस मुल्क में अच्छे ताल्लुकात पैदा कर सकेंगे । इसमें आपका जो नेतृत्व है हम कामयाब होंगे । अब तक यू.एफ.गवर्नमेंट ने जो कोशिश की है,सही दिशा में सही कदम उठाए है,यह भी एक सही कदम है । आने वाले दिनों में हमारे ताल्लुकात और सही होंगे,यह मैं उम्मीद करता हूं । शुक्रिया ।

شری محمد سلیم: وہ مبارکباد کے مستحق ہیں۔ میرے پاس کچھ "کرنٹ سجیشنس" بھی ہیں...

اس سے ایک دوسرے دیش کی جنتا کے ساتھ سمپرک کرنے کیلئے کنسیشنل ریٹ تھے۔ لیکن نئے دور میں جو یہ تمام قسم کی چیزیں آئی ہیں ان میں کنسیشنل ر

ڈی ہے۔ اس میں بھی ایشین کنٹریز میں یہ ہوتا ہے،" نیبرنگ کنٹریز" کے کمیونکیشن منسٹر سے کیا آپ بات کرینگے یا نہیں؟ تاکی وہ ٹیلیفون پر ایک دوسرے کے ساتھ بات کر سکیں گے اور جرنلسٹ بھی کنسیشنل ریٹ پر اپنی باتوں کا آدان پردان کر سکیں گے۔ جیسے پوسٹ کارڈ اور پتروں کیلئے ہے۔

دوسرا ہے کہ آؤٹ اسٹینڈنگ ایشو ہیت ہیں انکو آپ "فارن سیکریٹری لیبل" پر لینگے اور بعہ میں جو اوپر کے طبقے پر میٹنگ کرینگے وہ ٹھیک ہے ۔ لیکن یہ ہمیں دھیان میں رکھنا پڑے گا کہ جو نئی "جنریشن" ہے جو دونوں ملکوں میں آئی ہے اور وہ جنریشن ۴۶ کے فساد اور ۴۷ کی تقسیم سے زیادہ اہمیت رک

ہے کہ جب ملک کا پارٹیشن نہیں ہوا تھا۔ اسوقت جو پوسٹل سسٹم تھا وہ دو دیشوں کے بیچ میں تھا۔ اب یہ تین دیش ہو گئے ہیں۔ پاکستان، بنگالا دیش اور انڈیا۔ لی

ھتے ہیں۔

Becasuse I am one of the people who are working at the grassroot level to improve our relations with the neighbouring countries. Please allow me to put question.

†پہلا تو یہ کن پوسٹل ، پوسٹ کارڈ، لیفا فے پوری دنیا کیلئے تمام قسموں کے ہیں اور پاکستان اور بنگلا دیش کیلئے دوسرے ریٹ کے ہیں۔ لیکن ان پچاس سالوں کے اندر نئے نئے فیکس، آئی۔ایس۔ڈی۔ اے۔میل یہ نئی چیزیں آئی ہیں۔ انکے جو ریٹ ہیں وہ "کنسیشنل" نہیں ہیں۔

پرانے زمانے میں میڈیم ریٹ تھے اور ریٹس نہیں ہیں

If you want to really inprove relations between the two countreis people-to-people relations,

†تو آپکو یہ جو آئی ایس †**شری محمد سلیم"**

پشچمی بنکال": تھینکیوں ویری مچ۔ پہلے منتری جی کو مبارکباد دیتا ہوں...

اپ سبھا ادھیکش: وہ تو کافی ہو چکا ہے۔

†تاج محل ہو یا قطب مینار ہو یا مرشد آباد کے پیلیس ہوں۔

اسکو

بھی آپ کہینگے کہ دیکھو یہ ہمارا "ٹریڈیشن" ہے اور ایک

ساتھ ہم کامن ھسٹری شیئر کرتے ہیں۔

So, you please include the historical monuments and the centres also.

†تیسرا ہے۔ جیسا آپنے ایکسچینج آف گروپ کیا

ہے۔ ویسے آپ آگے۔ یہ تھوڑا "لائڈ تحینکنگ" ہو سکتا ہے۔

لیکن ہم کچھ فیئر اینڈ فیسٹیول آرگنائز "کر سکتے ہیں...

Whether we can also arrange some fares and festivals to project our own culture, you can find it out

†سانسکرتک گروپ کے آدان پردان کے ساتھ ساتھ "فیئر انیڈ

فیسٹیول آرگنائز "کئے جا سکتے ہیں۔ جب "جسچر آپ دکھا

رہے ہیں اور "یونیلیٹرلی دکھا رہے ہیں، دونوں ملکوں میں

ایسے لوگ ہیں، لوگ قریب آئیں وہ نہیں چاہتے ۔ ایسے تو بہت

سے ملک ہیں جو چاہتے ہیں کی سرکار قریب آئے وہ چاہتے ہیں

کہ لوگ قریب آجائیں ایسا نہیں چاہتے ہیں۔ تو تھوڑا ادھر۔ادھر

آپکے "مائنز اری "ٹیشن "تو رھینگے۔ لیکن بہت اچھا ہے اور

آپ جو بزنس کیلئے کہہ رہے ہیں کہ:...

آج جو ٹورزم ٹریڈ ۔قامرس۔ بزنس اور

ٹرانسپورٹ میں دو نزدیکی ملک آپس میں تال میل بٹھا کر

ایک دوسرے کی ترقی میں مدد کر سکیں اور وہ آگے بڑھ

سکیں اسکے لئے آپکا یہ قدم واقئی بہت اچھا ہے۔ اسلئے میں

سمجھتا ہوں کی ۳ آشاریہ ۲ میں جیسا آپنے کہا ہے کہ...

"Visa fecs for senior Pakistan citizens will be waived."

† اسمیں آپ یہ بھی کیوں نہیں کرتے ہیں کہ

فاردی اسٹودنٹ یوتھ اینڈ اسٹوڈنٹ جیسا آپنے آگے کے

قدم میں رکھا ہے... "مداخلت"... گروپس کے بارے

میں تو ہے کہ ایکسچیج آف گروپس ہونگے" "انڈیویجول "

بھی آسکینگے...

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL: I accept it

†**شری محمد سلیم:** تھینکیوں۔

تاکہ نئی جنریشن کو نئی دنیا دیکھنے کا موقع ملے۔ آپنے ۳

آشاریہ ۳ میں لکھا ہے کہ

"The number of religious shrines in India which can be visited by Pakistani pilgrims will be increased."

I suggest that apart from religious shrines, historical monuments, which we commonly share, both the countries, should also be included. Not only the religious shrines but the historical monuments also should be included

Multy entry visa should be valid for one year.

†انکو بھی ملٹی اینٹری رہنا چاہئے چاہے کچھ بھی ہو۔ چاہے وہ کیلامٹیز ہو۔ چاہے پولیٹکل ایونٹس ہوں یہاں کے جرنلسٹ وہاں جا سکتے ہیں اور وہاں کے جرنلسٹ یہاں آسکتے ہیں۔ ابھی یہ جو پاکستان کے الیکشن ہوئے ہیں۔ اس الیکشن میں جرنلسٹ نے بڑا " امپورٹنٹ رول پلے "کیا ہے...

Why don't you include, at least, journalists among others.

†جو کچھ اخباروں میں نکلا ہے اس سے پتہ چلتا ہے کہ لوگوں کا موڈ کیا ہے۔ اسلئے جرنلسٹ کو بھی اگر آپ ملٹی انٹیز ویزا میں انکلوڈ کر دینگے تو ٹھیک رہے گا۔ بہت سے لوگوں نے یہ کہا ہے کہ...

اپ سبھا ادھیکش "شری ترلوکی ناتھ چترویدی: آپ سوال پوچھئے۔ اور کیا کہتے ہیں یہ آپ چھوڑ دیجئے۔ آٹھ نام اور ہیں مہربانی کر کے سوال پوچھئے۔

شری محمد سلیم: ہاں میں وہی کر رہا ہوں میں سجیشن دے رہا ہوں۔

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TRILOKl NATH CHATURVEDl): It is a question of time, Mr. Salim.

SHRI MD. SALIM: I am not expanding. I am quickly vocering the points. You will be happy to know this.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TRILOKl NATH CHATURVEDl): I will be happy to know what you say. But I am trying to accommodate all.

SHRI MD. SALIM: The Minister of External Affairs is involved in this person-to-person talk.

†ییویل ٹو ییویل رلیشن یہ سٹیجن گروپ کام کر رہے ہیں۔

They are active without any encouragement from the Govt.

ہمارے یہاں تو تھوڑی بہت مدد مل جاتی ہے، وہاں "پٹرونیز" نہیں ملتا ہے۔ لیکن ایسی شکایت ہوتی ہے کہ ہمارے یہاں پر وہاں کے آرٹسٹ آکر کے کام کرتے ہیں لیکن یہاں کے آرٹسٹ وہاں جاکر کام کیوں نہیں کر سکتے تھے۔ ابھی کلکتہ سے پاکستانی سٹیزنس اور انڈین سٹیزنس کی "ییویل ٹو ییویل" کانفرنس ہو رہی تھی تو وہاں ایک تامہ نگار نے یوچھا کی آپکے ملک میں ہمارے آرٹیسٹوں کو "پرفارم" کرنے کا موقع نہیں ملتا ہے لیکن ہمارے ملک میں آپکے آرٹسٹ کام کرتے ہیں۔ پاکستان کے کلچرل ونگ کے ایکٹیوسٹ نے بتا یا کہ ابھی کچھ دن پہلے پاکستان میں ہمارے ہی آرٹسٹوں کو پرفارم کرنے کی پرمیشن نہیں تھی، آپ وہاں آ کر کے کرنے کی بات کر رہے ہیں۔ ہمیں "جیسچر" دکھانا پڑیگا

†[]Transliteration in Arabic Script

ایک بڑے ملک کے نا طے، اپنی تہزیب اور ٹریڈیشن کے نا طے اور ایک ڈیموکریٹک سیٹ اپ کے نا طے۔ یہ ہمنے بنگلادیش کے ساتھ دیکھایا ہے،ہم نے نیپال کے ساتھ دیکھایا ہے اور ہمارے جو دوسرے پڑوسی ملک ہیں وہ قریب آنے کی کوشش کرینگے۔ انکے یہاں "فارم ودھان پریشنر تیار ہوگا۔ میں مبارکباد دیتا ہوں۔ ہمیں دیکھانا پڑےگا ، ہمیں وہ مثال قائم کرنی پڑیگی، شکتی ہمارے پاس ہے۔ ہم اگرکرینگے تو وہ ملک بھی ایک قدم آگے بڑھنگے۔ اگر انکو شک بھی ہوگا، سبہہ بھی ہوگا تو بھی ایک آدھا قدم بڑھانے کیلئے وہ مجدور ہو گے۔ ہم اس ملک میں اچھے تعلقات پیدا کر سکیں گے۔ اسمیں آپکا جو نیترتیو ہے ہم کامیاب ہونگے۔ اب تک یو۔ایف۔ گورنمنٹ نے جو کوشش کی ہے، صحیح دشا میں صحیح قدم اٹھائیں ہیں، یہ بھی ایک صحیح قدم ہے۔ آنے والے دینوں میں ہمارے تعلقات اور صحیح ہونگے، یہ میں امیدکرتا ہوں۔ شکریہ۔ "ختم شد"

SHRI R.K. KUMAR (Tamil Nadu): Mr. Vice-Chairman, the disadvantage of being called last is that Mr. Md. Salim and others have spoken everything

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI): It was only in that hope I called his name first.

SHRI R.K. KUMAR: Sir, when Neil Armstrong landed in moon he said, "It is a small step, but a giant leap for the mankind". Whatever the hon. External Affairs Minister has done today may look like a small step but it is going to be a giant leap towards better relations between the two countries. We make so many Zero Hour Submissions and Special Mentions in this House. They are just like, blowing the trumpet into the dead man's ear. We do not get any response or we do not get any reaction. This is my experience for the last one year in this House. But on this occasion I am very grateful to the External Affairs Minister because he had solved the issue of the plight of 38 children and got'the children back within three months from the date of raising the issue in this House during the winter session. I congratulate him

Now I will take only one minute to bring to his notice another very important plight which is going to happen after 1st July, 1997. The Indians visiting

Hongkong today get visas for three months on arrival. When I was in Honkong last time I heard that our Counsul General had written to the External Affairs Ministry that the Chinese Government wanted to know what we were going to do. As regards the Chinese they are going to give new passports. .Unles it depends on reciprocity and unless n'o decision is taken fast, Indians may not be able to get visas for landing in Hongkong. Of course, he need not answer it immediately. He can take note of it and answer later.

PROF. (SHRIMATI) BHARAT1 RAY (West Bengal): Sir, first of all, I

wouid like to congratulate to hon. Minister for taking this very bold step. This is a bold step which is in tune with our tradition because Indian history is a history of unity in diversity and in the words of Tagore:

Esho he Arya, Esho Anarya, Hindu-Musalman (come Aryans, non-Aryans Hindus, Muslim, you all come to this great land of India.

The most imprtant thing in the Minister's statement is the people-to-people contact. We know that when there is tension between the two Governemnts the people are not always affected by that. On the other hand, they are subjected to propaganda, the usual wrong propaganda. This step will help to understand each other. That is the most important thing. Our comrade Md. Salim has mentioned most of the points.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI): You seek your clarifications.

PROF. (SHRIMATI) BHARATI RAY: What I am going to say is that you have mentioned about expansion of cultural contacts., I would very much like to know how you propose to do that. Please elaborate on that point. Thank you.

6.00 P.M.

श्री ओ.पी.कोहली (दिल्ली): उपसभाध्यक्ष जी,माननीय विदेश मंत्री जी ने अपने वक्तव्य में यह जानकारी दी है कि पाकिस्तान ने अपने यहां बंद 38 भारतीय बच्चों को मुक्त करने की घोषणा की है । यह तो बहुत सराहनीय बात है । इसके लिए हमारी सरकार और विदेश मंत्रालय की ओर से जो प्रयास किए गए हैं उसके लिए वे बधाई के पात्र हैं । लेकिन मैं विदेश मंत्री जी से कहना चाहता हूं कि भारत के कुछ सैनिक और बड़े सैनिक अफसर पाकिस्तान की जेलों में पिछले लगभग 25-26 सालों से बंद है और उन अभागे सैनिकों के माता पिता उनके परिवार के लोग इस संबंध में विदेश मंत्रालय से बार बार अनुरोध और आग्रह करते चले आ रहे हैं । 25-26 वर्ष हो गए हैं । 1971-72 के आसपास उनको गिरफ्तार किया गया था । वे बेचारे जवान रहे होंगे तो अब बूढ़े हो गए होंगे। यह जो विदेश सचिव स्तरीय बैठक हो रही है और उसके बाद उससे भी ऊपर के स्तर की बैठक होने वाली है क्या इस बैठक का उपयोग विदेश मंत्री जी उन अभागे सैनिकों की भी मुक्त करवाने के लिए करेंगे । ऐसा मैं उनसे स्पष्टीकरण भी चाहता हूं और अनुरोध भी करता हूं ।v

SHRI SURINDER KUMAR SINGLA (Punjab): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, the hon. Minister of External Affairs deserves congratulations from all Indians for taking up a noble, bold and unilateral step and making two countries move towards normalisation as well as peace on a permanent footing in both the nations. I would say it is a first major step the Government has taken to strengthen the bonds between the people of two countries. There have been attempts earlier also from NGOs to improve people-to-people contacts but once the Government takes a step, probably it will help more. I would like to seek two clarifications from the hon. Minister. The fifth measure which the Minister has mentioned in his statement is, "Freeflow of books and periodicals estabishes better appreciation of each other". One would agree with it completely. 'I am cautioning the Minister. Before the actual normalisation takes plae, will there be some kind of monitoring that the free flow or special flow of books will only strengthen contacts and appreciate each other? Let there not be any propaganda material of one kind or the other come in so that the whole attempt does not get jeopardised.

My second point is this. I come from the State of Punjab. I would like to know whether the Secretary level meeting has

an agenda on the point of ISI activities both in Jammu and Kashmir and Punjab. There were a lot of Press reports that in the recent bomb blasts ISI was involved. I would like to know whether the Minister would take up this matter apart from Secretary levle talks, as a part of the agenda.

Thirdly, the hon. Minister is aware of the SGPC demand. The SGPC is demanding of the Government of India to take up the matter of repair of their gurudwaras and religion places. But this permission has not been given. If the hon. Minister takes up this matter at the Secretary level meeting or otherwise we will really be grateful to the hon. Minister of External Affairs. Thank you.

श्री ईश दत्त यादव(उत्तर प्रदेश)**:** मान्यवर उपाध्यक्ष जी,मैं भी विदेश मंत्री जी को और भारत सरकार को बहुत धन्यवाद दे रहा हूं इनके प्रयास के लिए जो बच्चे जेल में बंद थे वे छूट गए और हमारे आपसी संबंध सुधर रहे हैं । मान्यवर,लगभग 50 साल पहले बंगला देश और पाकिस्तान भारत का ही हिस्सा था । दुर्भाग्य था कि हम अलग हो गए । इसलिए डा.राम मनोहर लोहिया ने कहा कि भारत,बंगलादेश और पाकिस्तान का एक महांसघ बनना चाहिए । महांसघ बन जाएगा तो हमारे संबध सुधरेंगे जिससे हमारे व्यापार में भी वृद्वि होगी,हमारी राजनीतिक सूझ-बूझ भी अच्छी रहेगी और हम इस दुनिया की एक शक्ति बन सकेंगे । भारत सरकार ने और विदेश मंत्री जी ने इस ओर प्रयास प्रारम्भ कर दिया है । इसके लिए मैं बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद देना चाहता हूं। मैं केवल एक ही प्रश्न पूछना चाहता हूं कि विदेश मंत्री जी के बयान में यह है कि यह लगता है कि पारस्परिक और आपसी समझौता दोनों देशों का हुआ है तो आपने जो एक से पांच तक सुविधाएं गिनाई हैं पाकिस्तान से आने वाले लोगों के लिए तो क्या वहीं पांचों सुविधाएं वे लोग भी अर्थात् पाकिस्तान के लोग भी हमारे देशवासियों को देने के लिए तैयार हैं? क्या इस तरह का आपका समझौता हुआ है अथवा इससे कुछ कम या ज्यादा हुआ हैं ?

मौलाना ओबैदुल्ला खान आज़मी(बिहार)**:** सर, मैं अपने मौअज़िज मैम्बराने पार्लियामेंट की तरह जनाब वज़ीए-ए-खारजा इन्द्र कुमार गुजराल साहब को इस बात की मुबारकवाद देता हूं कि मोहब्बत की इकतरफा कोशिश और नफरत को खत्म करने का इकतरफा जज़बा हिस्टारिकल लोगों में होता है जिस काम को गुजराल साहब ने हम तमाम हिन्दुस्तानियों की तरफ से पाकिस्तान को यह पैगाम दिया है कि,

खुलूस-ए-दिल है अगर सलामत
मिटेगी एक रोज़ यह कशा-कश
तुम्हें मेरा नगमा-ए-मोहब्बत
करेगा मजबूरे हमनवाई ।"

गुजराल साहब के दिलों दिमाग में यह तलखी पहले से मौजूद है कि एक वतन दो टुकड़े हो गया,व हिन्द व पाकिस्तान नफरत की दीवारें खिंच गई और दो दिलके दरम्यान,कुनबे की तकसीम को अपनी हार कहें या जीत । बहर-नो वह बड़ा ही दुखदायी फैसला था जिसके नतीजे में हमारा मुल्क दो हिस्सों में तकसीम होकर रह गया । आज नफरत को मोहब्बत में बदलने के लिए जो प्रस्ताव और जो सजेशन गुजराल साहब लेकर आए हैं हमारा पूरा मूल्क उनका स्वागत करता हूं उन्हें खुशामदीद कहता हैं ।

सर,कुछ अरसा केवल हमारे मुल्क में पाकिस्तान का एक डेलीगेशन आया था और हमारे मुल्क के डेलीगेशन की सरबराही हिन्दुस्तान के वफ़द की सरबराही एक साबिक होम मिनिस्टर ने फरमाई थी जिसमें आपस में इस बात पर जोर दिया गया था कि इंडो-पाक जंग हमेशा हिन्दुस्तानियों और पाकिस्तानियों के मुस्तकबिल को तबाह करने वाली साबित होगी । हम जीत कर भी हार जायेंग ।**...(व्यवधान)**....सर,ऐसी सूरत में जो एकतरफा कोशिश गुजराल साहब ने की है उसमें मैं सिर्फ दो बातें कहना चाहूंगा जो प्रश्न भी है और सुझाव भी हैं । एक तो यह कि पाकिस्तान से जो डेलीगेशन आए वह डेलीगेशन सिर्फ दारूल सल्तनत से वापस चला जाए,हमारे यहां सेजो वफ़द जाए वह सिर्फ इस्लामाबाद का न होकर रह जाए वहां से जो वफ़द आए वह सिर्फ दिल्ली का होकर न रह जाए बल्कि हिन्दुस्तान के मुख्तलिफ बड़े शहरों में जहां हमारा कल्चर रचता-बसता हैं वहां भी उन वफूद को जाना चाहिए और वहां भी एक-दूसरे से मिज़ाज आशनाई होनी चाहिए । सर,दूसरी बात कहना चाहूंगा कि इस वफूद को गांवों में भी भेजना

चाहिए । जिस गांव में हिन्दूस्तान की सही अक्कासी और पाकिस्तान की सही अक्कासी होती है ।

सर,एक बात और कहना चाहूंगा कि अकसर यह होता है कि वहां से जो वफद आया वह मुसलमानों के घरों में रह जाता है और मुसलमान उसका इस्तकबाल करते हैं,मुसलमान उसकी मेहमानदारी करते है और यहां से जो वफद और डेलीगेशन पाकिस्तान गया वहां हमारा हिन्दू भाई उसकी मेहमानदारी करता है । इस तरीका-ए-कार को अगर बदला जाए तो ज्यादा बेहतर होगा । वहां से जो वफद आए यहां हिन्दुस्तान में हमारे हिन्दू भाइयों का मेहमान हो हिन्दुस्तान से जो हमारा वफद जाए वह वहां के मुसलमानों का मेहमान हो । इस तरह के हम एक-दूसरे के साथ खैरसगाली का जज़वा पैदा कर सकते हैं ।

मैं एक बात आखिरी कहूंगा सर,और पूछूंगा भी वह वीसा की सहूलियत के बारे में है । हमारे मुल्क में वीसा की सहूलियम भी एकतरफा दी है । मगर पाकिस्तान जाने वालों के लिए यह होता है कि पाकिस्तान एंबेसी में पासपोर्ट को रख लेते है और उसके बाद उनसे कहते हैं कि 90 दिन के बाद आपको वीसा मिलेगा ।

वह इस्लामाबाद से इस को क्लिअर करेंगे,उस के बाद आप को वीसा मिलेगा । "तो कौन जीता है तेरी जुल्फ के सर होने तक ।" किसी का बच्चा बीमार है वहां,किसी का बाप बीमार है,किसी के रिलेशन में कोई मरने वाला है और आप कहते हो कि 90 दिन के बाद वीसा देंगे । तो 90 दिन में तो पता नहीं उस इंसान को कहां पहुंचना होगा ? यह तो गैर-इंसान और गैर-अखलाक़ी तरीका-ए-कार हैं पाकिस्तान का । एहततताजी तौर पर मैं यह कहना चाहूंगा कि जिस तरह हमारे श्री गुजराल साहब ने इंसानी और अखलाकी रवैया अख्तियार करते हुए वहां से आने वालों की राहें हमवार की हैं,उसी तरह पाकिस्तान को हमारे साथ भी मुरबत रवैया अपनाते हुए यहां से जाने वालों को फौरी तौर पर वीसा देना चाहिए ।

मैं आप से यह अर्ज़ करूंगा कि जब उच्चस्तरीय बैठक हो तो उस में इस मसले को टॉप-प्रॉयरिटी पर उठाया जाए ताकि जाने वालों की समस्याएं खत्म हो जाएं और लोगों को असानियां फराहम हों । थैंक यू शुक्रिया ।

उपसभाध्यक्ष(श्री त्रिलोकी नाथ चतुर्वेदी): शुक्रिया आजमी साहब । श्री सोमपाल ।

†**مولانا عبیداللہ خان اعظمی "بہار"**: سر۔ میں اپنے معزز ممبران پارلیمنٹ کی طرح جناب وزیر خارجہ اندرکومار گجرال صاحب کو اس بات کی مبارکباد دیتا ہوں کی محبت کی ایک طرف کوشش اور نفرت کو ختم کرنے کا ایک طرف جزبہ حسٹوریکل لوگوں میں ہوتا ہے جس کام کو گجرال صاحب نے اس وقت کر دکھلایا ہے۔ گجرال صاحب نے ہم تمام ھندوستانوں کی طرف سے پاکستان کو یہ پیغام دیا ہے کہ،

خلوص دل ہے اگر سلامت مٹے گی ایک روز یہ
کشاکش تمہیں میرا ننحمہ محبت کرے گا مجبورے
ہمنوائی۔

گجرال صاحب کے دلوں دما غ میں یہ تلخی پہلے سے موجود ہے کہ ایک وطن دو ٹوکڑے ہو گئے۔ ہند و پاکستان کے درمیان نفرت کی دیوارے کھینچ گئی اور دونو کے درمیان ، کنے کی تقسیم کو اپنی ھار کہوں یا جیت۔ ہرنو۔ وہ بڑا ھی تکلیف دہ فیصلہ تہا جسکے نتیجہ میں ہمارا ملک دو حصوں میں تقسیم ہوکر رہ گیا۔ آج نفرت کو بدلنے کیلئے جو پرستاؤ اور جو سجیشنس گجرال صاحب لیکر آئے ہیں ہمارا یورا ملک انکا سواگت کرتا ہے انہے خوش آمدید کہنا ہے۔

†[]Transiileration in Arahic Script

سر، ایک بات اور کہنا چاہونگا کہ اکثر یہ ہوتا ہے کہ وہاں سے جو وفد آیا وہ مسلمانوں کے گھروں میں رہ جاتا ہے اور مسلمان اسکا استقبال کرتے ہیں۔ مسلمان اسکی مہمانداری کرتے ہیں اور یہاں سے جو وفد اور ڈیلیگیشن پاکستان گیا وہاں ہمارا ھندو بھائی اسکی مہمانداری کرتا ہے۔ اس طریقہ کار کو اگر بدلا جائے تو زیادہ بہتر ہوگا۔ وہاں سے جو وفد آئے۔ یہاں ھندوستان میں ہمارے ھندو بھائیوں کا مہمان ہو ھندوستان سے جو وفد ہمارا جائے وہ وہاں کے مسلمانوں کا مہمان ہو۔ اس طرح سے ہم ایک دوسرے کے ساتھ خیر سکالی کا جزبہ پیدا کر سکتے ہیں۔

میں ایک بات آخری کہونگا۔ سر، اور پوچھونگا بھی وہ ویزا کی سہولیت کے بارے میں ہے۔ ہمارے ملک میں ویزا کی سہولیت بھی ایکطرفہ دی ہے۔ مگر پاکستان جانے والوں کیلئے یہ ہوتا ہے کہ پاکستان امبیسی میں پاسپورٹ کو رکھ لیتے ہیں اور اسکے بعد انسے کہتے ہیں کی ۹۰ دن کے بعد آپکو ویزا ملیگا۔

وہ اسلام آباد سے اس کو کلیئر کرینگے، اس کے بعد آپ کو ویزا ملیگا۔

سر، کچھ عرصہ قبل ہمارے ملک میں پاکستان کا ایک ڈیلیگشن آیا تھا اور ہمارے ملک کے ڈیلیگیشن کی سربراھی ہمارے ھندوستان کے وفرد کی سربراہی ایک سابق ھوم منسٹر نے فرمائی تھی جسمیں آپس میں اس بات پر زور دیا گیا تھا کی انڈو ۔پاک جنگ ھمیشہ ھندوستانیوں اور پاکستانیوں کے مستقبل کو تباہ کرنے والی ثابت ہوگی۔ ہم جیت کر بھی ہار جائنگے ..."مداخلت"... سر، ایسی صورت میں جو ایک طرفہ کوشش گجرال صاحب نے کی ہے اسمیں میں صرف دو باتیں کہنا چاہونگا اور جو سوال بھی ہے اور سجھاؤ بھی ہے۔ ایک تو یہ کی پاکستان سے جو ڈیلیگیشن آئے وہ ڈیلیگشن صرف دارالسلطنت سے واپس چلا جائے۔ ہمارے یہاں سے جو وفرد جائے وہ صرف اسلاماآباد کا نہ ہوکر رہ جائے وہاں سے جو وفرد آئے وہ صرف دلی کا نہ ہوکر رہ جائے بلکہ ھندوستان کے مختلف بڑے شہروں میں جہاں ہمارا کلچر رچتا بستا ہے وہاں بھی ان وفود کو جانا چاہیئے اور وہاں بھی ایک دوسرے سے مزاج آشمائی ہونی چاہیئے۔ سر، دوسری بات کہنا چاہونگا کی اس وفود کو گاؤں میں بھی بھیجنا چاہیئے۔ جس گاؤں میں ھندوستان کی صحیح عکاسی اور پاکستان کی صحیح عکاسی ہوتی ہیں

"توکون جیتا ہے تیری زلف کے سر ہونے تک۔ "

کسی کا بچا بیمار ہے۔ وہاں کسی کا باپ بیمار ہے۔ کسی کے رلیشن میں کوئی مرنے والا ہے اور آپ کہتے ہیں کہ ۹۰ دن میں تو پتہ نہیں اس انسان کو کہا پہنچنا ہوگا۔ یہ تو غیر انسانی اور غیر اخلاقی طریقہ کار ہے پاکستان کا۔ احتجاجی طور پر میں یہ کہنا چاہونگا کہ جس طرح ہمارے شری گجرال صاحب نے انسانی اور اخلاقی رویہ اختیار کرتے ہوئے وہاں سے آنے والوں کی راہیں ہموار کی ہیں۔ اسی طرح پاکستان کو ہمارے ساتھ بھی مثبت رویہ اپناتے ہوئے یہاں سے جانے والوں کو فوری طور پر ویزا دینا چاہئے۔

میں آپ سے یہ عرض کرونگا کہ اونچی سطح کی بیٹھک ہو تو اسمیں اس مسئلہ کو ٹاپ پرائرٹی پر اٹھایا جائے تاکہ جانے والوں کے مسائل ختم ہو جائیں اور لوگوں کو آسانیاں فراہم ہوں۔ تھینکیو۔ شکریہ

"ختم شد"

SHRI SOM PAL (Uttar Pradesh): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I wish to make a very brief point. I just listened to the •points made by hon. Shri Pranab Mukherjee who has just left. He made a point regarding import of literature. From my personal experience and personal chat with one very senior diplomat who had visited, on habalf of our country, sometime back the capital of Pakistan, on one afternoon, he was a bit free and he decided to go around in the market. He was having a look at the literature and books in a bookshop. All of a sudden one small book which was meant for teaching letters to primary students caught his eye. He just lifted the book, opened the page and he came upon two letters. As we all know, when we teach letters to primary students in the first class, the objects are placed to make him aware of the sounds of consonants of vowels. He found two very amazing pictures. One was denoting the sound 'K' and the word written was *Kafir* and a Brahmin with a tika on his forehead and a *Yojopavit* was depicted. On the second page, he found a similar sound 'Z' where the word *Zalim* was written and a turbaned Sardar was depicted. My point is, there should be some caution in allowing free import of such books. If such a book lands here, instead of creating goodwill it may generate some kind of animosity. But as far as the steps contemplated in his statement are concerned, I have always been a votary that some such unilateral measures must be undertaken. I had been to karachi way back in September, 1993 with my leader, Shri v\P. Singh to attend the Conference of the Opposition Leaders of-SAARC Countries convened by Mrs. Benazir Bhutto. We visited so many families. There is tremendous amount of goodwill amont all the Pakistanis. They respect India for the freedom, for human rights, for literature and some people told me that they were studying Urdu from our radio and television. They respect all our institutions, our families and other things. They wish to come here. Even the security personnel attending all of us for two days kept quiet. But then they

started conversing with me and all of them are craving to get visa to come to India. This will generate a lot of goodwill if they are allowed to do so. In that respect I do welcome it but on the literature import point, some caution should be taken. That is my brief point. Thank you.

SHRI BRATJN SENGUPTA (West Bengal): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, will the Minister kindly supplement his bold and breakthrough initiative with the following exchange programmes that I am going to suggest? They are: Exchange -of children's delegations. Exchange of Freedom fighters who shared the heritage of struggle against the British imperialism; exchange of academic, cultural and sports delegations between universities; exchange of educationists, and linguists in particular, more so in the background of a new university which is coming up in Hyderabad, the Maulana Azad Urdu University; cooperation and exchanges among' tlje scientific communities, and in particular software exchange programmes; exchange of women's delegations; exchange of handicraft

artisans delegations and delegation of former prisoners of was and former warriors. Thank you.

श्री वसीम अहमद(उत्तर प्रदेश)**:** डिप्टी चेयरमैन सर,जैसी कि सबने मुबारकवाद दी है गुजराल साहब को,मैं भी उन्हें मुबारकवाद देने के लिए अपने आपको शरीक करता हूं । गुजराल साहब की कोशिश,वैसे गवर्नमेंट मैं आज मिनिस्टर की हैसियत से ही नहीं बल्कि आप गवर्नमेंट में रहे या न रहे,अपने पड़ोसी मुल्कों से ताल्लुकात बेहतर करने की हमेशा रही है,चाहे वह श्रीलंका हो,चाहे वह नेपाल हो,चाहे वह बांगला देश हो,अकेला पाकिस्तान का सवाल नहीं हैं ।

उपसभाध्यक्ष(श्री त्रिलोकी नाथ चतुर्वेदी): आप उसी पर थोड़ा कन्फाइन करिए ।

श्री वसीम अहमद: पाकिस्तान से जो हमारे रिश्ते पिछले 50 साल से हैं,उसमें कोई शक नहीं कि जितने हमारे पड़ोसी मुल्क हैं उनमें सबसे ज्यादा टेन्स रिश्ता पाकिस्तान से रहा है,रहता है । इसमें भी कोई शक नहीं है कि दोनों मुल्कों के लोग अपने ताल्लुकात बेहतर रखना चाहते हैं । यह जो मासूम बच्चे गुजराल साहब की मेहनत से फिर अपने मुल्क में आए हैं,इन बच्चों की वजह से हम दोनों मुल्कों के ताल्लुकात बेहतर हों और हम एक अच्छे पड़ोसी की तरह रह सकें,यह हमारी कोशिश जारी रहनी चाहिए ।

सर,इसके साथ गुजराल साहब ने बिल्कुल सही मैसेज दे दिया हैं पाकिस्तान के लोगों को कि "दुश्मनी डट कर करो,लेकिन गुंजाइश रहे कि हम कभी दोस्त बन जाएं तो शर्मिन्दा न हों" । यह हमारी कोशिश रहनी चाहिए अपने पड़ौसी मुल्कों के लिए । मुझे एक बार,जैसा कि सोतपान जी ने कहां,वी.पी.सिंह साहब के साथ 1993 में पाकिस्तान जाने का मौका मिला था । वहां की आवाम दोसती चाहती है,लेकिन बदकिस्मती यह है कि हम गवर्नमेंट टू गवर्नमेंट,जो हमारी गलतफहमियां हैं,वह दूर नहीं होती । आवाम को हम अपने मीडिया और दूसरे जरिए से गुमराह करते हैं । मैंने खुद पाकिस्तान में वहां के टी.वी.के अंदर देखा कि वह किस तरीके से कश्मीर के मसले को पेश करते हैं । जब तक हम इसे ठीक नहीं करेंगे,हमारे आवामी रिश्ते उनसे बेहतर नहीं हो सकते । हमें यह चाहिए कि उनसे एक बार दिल से बात करें कि तुम हमारे खिलाफ प्रोपेगंडा छोड़ो,हम तुम्हारे खिलाफ छोड़े,और तभी हम एक दूसरे के सही मायनों में अच्छे पड़ौसी हो सकते हैं,एक दूसरे के हमदर्द हो सकते हैं । आप देखिए दूसरे मुल्कों को,दूसरे मुल्क कितनी तरक्की कर रहे हैं । हम चाहते हैं कि हम लोक भी वैसे की तरक्की करें ।

वाइस चेयरमैन सर,इतनी बात कहकर मैं फिर से गुजराल साहब का शुक्रिया अदा करता हूं और चाहता हूं कि वह अपनी यह कोशिश जारी रखें,हम सब लोग उनकी मदद करेंगे । बहुत बहुत शुक्रिया।

मौलाना हबीबुर्रहमान नोमानी(नाम – निर्देशित)**:**सर,मैं भी इसके अंदर शरीक होना चाहता हूं आपकी मेहरबानी से । गुजराल साहब एक अतिदूर नजर और

रोशन ख्याज सियासदां हैं ।उनके इस इकदाम पर मैं उनको बहुत बहुत मुबारकबाद देता हूं और मैं यह कहता हूं कि अभी यह इब्तदाई इश्क है,अभी जो हालात बनेंगे,कहां तक यह चीज जाएगी,कहां तक परवान चढ़ेंगे,उसके लिए हम लोगों को बहुत ज्यादा चिंतित नहीं होना है,फिक्रमंद नहीं होना है । जिस तरह से बच्चों के मामलात सुलझे हैं और वे जेल से बाहर आ रहे है,वैसे ही धीरे धीरे दूसरे मसायल भी हल होंगे । एक हिन्दुस्तान और पाकिस्तान के ताल्लुकात के सुधार का सिलसिला शुरू हो जाए तो हम यह समझते हैं कि हमारे मैम्बरों ने जिन ख्यालात का इजहार किया है,जिन चीज़ों को कहा है,जिस तरफ मुतवज्जुह दिया है,वे सब मसायल धीरे-धीरे हल होंगे । हमें यकन और भरोसा है कि गुजराल साहब के कयादत में,रहनुमाई में पाकिस्तान से ताल्लुकात उक्तवार होंगे और जो हमारे मसायल हैं,वे मसायल हल होंगे ।

इन्हीं लफ्जों के साथ आपके शुक्रिया के साथ एक बार फिर मैं गुजराल साहब को पूरे सब लोगों की तरफ से,इस हाऊस की तरफ से,पूरे हिन्दुस्तान के लोगों की तरफ से मुबारकबाद देता हूं । शुक्रिया ।

†مولانا حبیب الرحمان نعمانی" نام نردیشت": سر۔ میں بھی اسکے اندر شریک ہونا چاہتا ہوں آپکی مہربانی سے۔

گجرال صاحب ایک بہت ہی دورانرش اور روشن خیال سیاستوں سیں ۔ انکے اس اقرام پر میں بہت بہت مبارکباد دیتا ہوں اور میں یہ کہتا ہوں کہ ابھی یہ "ابتدائی عشق ہے" ابھی جو حالت بنیں گے، کہاں تک یہ چیز جائیگی ۔کہاں تک پروان چڑھے گی۔ اسکے لئے ہم لوگوں کو بہت زیادہ فکر مند نہیں ہونا چاہئے بہت زیادہ چنتیت نہیں ہونا چاہئے۔ جسطرح سے بچوں کے معاملات سلجھے ہیں اوروہ جیل سے باہرآرہے ہیں ویسے ہی دھیرےدھیرے ہمارے دوسرے مسائل بھی حل ہونگے۔ ایک بارھندوستان پاکستان کے تعلقات کے سدھار کا سلسلہ شروع ہو جائے تو ہم یہ سمجھتے ہیں کہ ہمارے ممبران نے جن خیالات کا اظہار کیا ہے۔ جن چیزوں کو کہا ہے جسطرف متوجہہ کیا ہے ۔ وہ سب مسائل دھیرے دھیرے حل ہوگے۔ ہمیں یقین اور بھروسہ ہے کہ گجرال صاحب کی قیادت میں رھنائی میں پاکستان سے تعلقات استوار ہونگے اور جو ہمارے مسائل ہیں وہ مسائل حل ہونگے۔

انہی لفظوں کے ساتھ ۔ آپکے شکریہ کے ساتھ ایک بار پھر میں گجرال صاحب کو تمام لوگوں کی طرف سے۔اس ھاؤس کی طرف سے پورے ھندوستان کے لوگوں کی طرف سے مبارکباد دیتا ہوں۔ شکریہ۔

"ختم شد"

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL: Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I am deeply touched by the sentiments expressed by my colleagues. It is indeed a great deal of encouragement to me in the policy that we are pursuing. It is not in this context only that this policy is being pursued. You will kindly recall and this House will please recall that ever since we occupied this office, we have consistently followed a plicy which has now been assigned my name, as my Doctrine. What is basically the doctrine? Basically we believe that it is primarily in India's interest that we should have good neighbourly relations witl all our neighbours.. In spelling thai out, we have done two or three things a

new which we had not done before. And the new element is • that we have said that we are a large country, we are a vast country, 85 per cent of the landmass of South Asia is India, nearly 85 per cent of population of the landmass of South Asia is in India and 90 per cent of the economy of all the countries put together is the Indian economy. We take pride in this. We are happy that the way the Indian economy has progressed and the way we have made our place in the world, we can take now a very remarkably magnanimus attitude towards everything. And that is why we have said, and we believe in it, that India does not believe in reciprocity. India believes that being a large country, being a vast country, being a more strong country, being a more self-confident country, we are willing to assist our neighbours and even go a step further and go more than halfway to create an environment of friendship and cooperation. It is in this context that we look at our foreign policy. Bangladesh was one cxmaple. For thirty years difficulties have been there. We have been able to sort them out. I don't claim personal credit for this. I claim credit for the country for that. My friends from Bengal are sitting here. I think Mr. Jyoti Basu's contribution is the most remarkable in that. And today when you see India and Bangladesh together, you start feeling within a matter of couple of months as if we never had bad relations. This is a type of environment change, which has suddenly come. India-Nepal relations, India-Bhutan relations, India's relations with Sri Lanka, all these have been placed on a new footing, which is a matter of satisfaction.

And now we are venturing to have a new attitude and I hope for a more positive environment between India and Pakistan. Well, I am not trying to rouse any hopes or euphoria, I am proceeding with caution, but also with optimism. We are proceeding with hope and also encouraging those trends which can possibly create an environment of cooperation.

In these fifty years since freedom, and some friends have rightly pointed out, this is a time for us to take stock of our situation and I can only assure you, Sir, that the talks that may begin next week, are such that we are looking and proceeding, as I said in my statement, with positive optimism. Therefore, let us see.

The steps that we have taken and which I have announced today are a part of the people-to-people relations, which we have been following from day one. This House will kindly recall that I had earlier conveyed to the hon. Members that even now we are following a new regime of unilateral visa issuance. Particularly after the closing of the Karachi Counsulate of India we had to do our utmost to see that the families and particularly people of those families which are divided, are able to come Jo us and meet their old relatives and relations. On the average we are issuing about 300 visas a day from Islamabad. We have also tried to facilitate because we don't expect many people who live in Karachi, to come first to Islamabad to apply, go back, then come back. So, we are now giving permission to apply by Fax and get it done very quickly. Well, more can be done. When in December last the former Foreign Minister of Pakistan came here, I had requested him to let us post two or three more officials in Islamabad so that we can add to this number. Unfortunately that has not come through as yet. But I must say to the credit of our officials that in order to cope with the high pressure of more visas, their wives are now working in the evenings to help issuance of more visas. And this will continue. This is a part of Indian tradition.. It does not need reciprocity. If somebody comes to us from Karachi or Lahore or somewhere and says that his son is

suffering or him mother is suffering, 1 can't think of bilateralism at that time. I think as a human being. And when I say T, I am not talking of an individual, I represent the compassion of this country, I represent the civilisation of this country and it is our compassion and our civilisation that makes our policies.

In this context, therefore, Sir, you will kindly recall and my friend, Mr. Pranab Mukherjec had drawn my attention to this, about Track-II.

I myself have been a part of Track-II. As a matter of fact, I am a luckier one that I have travelled from Track-II to Track 1. Therefore, while working on Track II, I have gone to Pakistan several times and I have gone to Bangaladesh several times. It provided me an insight into two situations. Therefore, when I contribute to making policies here, I am able to think of the feelings of the people there, and 1 feel the feelings of the people of Pakistan, as it was in Bangladesh, as it was in Nepal, are positive, friendly. We are only facilitating that. India is an open country; India has a democratic polity; India has a society which welcomes everybody to come here. Millions of people come from all parts of the world and I think we get very funky if a few hundred come from neighbouring countries. I want to abolish those walls. I hope the time will come soon when we will be able to say, anybody can come to India from this side also without visas. We live for that. We want to do that. I think that is one of the very obnoxious dimensions of our history that we expect our children, our women, our citizens to go and report to police. Somebody comes from Timbuktu and he may be a highly undesirable person; he does not have to go to the police. But somebody comes from neighbouring countries; we expect him to go to the police. I hope you will understand, this is not something of which we feel proud.

Therefore, gradually we arc demolishing it also. We will have difficulties because all these decisions, I don't take in my own Ministry alone; we have to consult our colleagues who will also have difficulties, but gradually, yo, have seen we are abolishing that as well.

Some friends talked about books. An open society's one dimension is import of books. Books come from all parts of the world. If books come-in English; if books come in French, if books come in Italian, we are not worried. Why are we not worried? We have certain rules. We follow those rules and those rules will be followed for Pakistan also. Therefore, I am not worried that on only one side the books will come. Ultimately, books come to be available to those who buy them. If undesirable books come, nobody will buy them and nobody will import those books which cannot be sold here. Therefore, there are by themselves inbuilt impediments, in a way. So, I am not worried about that, it is very interesting for us to see, after all most of the books that will come from Pakistan are in Urdu. Fortunately, I happen to be a Urdu reader myself. I think, it is a very interesting thing. For the last fifty years, if you look at the history of our relations, you will notice that almost every good Urdu book published here is plagiarised there and the compliment is returned. This is something which we both of us keep on doing. Why not do it? I can say with confidence that one of my own books in Urdu was published in Hyderabad and with my permission, of course, now a publisher has published it in Karachi. This is, of coourse, another dimension. I was taken by surprise because—I don't write love stories; I write solid politics, I write international affairs, I write about those literary personalities in India and Pakistan whom I have known, like Faiz and others.

One of my books which is called Mazammne-e-Gujral has been published in Hyderabad and now published in Karachi. Why? This means what? Why are people wanting to publish books? They did not publish the book to oblige

me. There must be some readers available; there must be some people who want to read these books and there must be books which people here want to read. If Ghalib is read here and Ghalib is read there, I see nothing wrong in it. If Iqbal's book is published there and we read it also and/ quote him, it is a great thing. Why not? Therefore, we are now demolishing these walls and moving towards that direction.

I totally welcome what malkaniji has said, particularly exempting to womenfolk from going to police. I feel ashamed, as an Indian, my head bows down in shame when somebody, some lady coming from Pakistan tells me that he had to go to the police station. I feel very sorry for those women. I remember one particular incident. Four or five years ago, a lady friend, whom we had known—both my wife and myself—for many years, came from Pakistan and she went to police and she came back. She was totally disturbed. I could not raise my head. We have built these walls to try to humiliate each other and we think both in India and Pakistan we represent great cultures when we force our womenfolk—both in Pakistan and India—to go to police to report.

I do not like it. But there are difficulties. So, I am proceeding step by step. All senior women will not go to police; all children will not go to police; all senior citizens will not go to police. And I do hope gradually I will be able to persuade our law and order authorities to expand and have the approach which Malkaniji had mentioned. It has my full support. I have also been told about the inter-religious conferences. Of course,-all kinds of people are welcome. When I am relaxing visa, I am relaxing it all round. And particularly I am relaxing it for intellectuals, thinkers and philosophers be they philosophers of religion or be they philosophers of Marxism. They are most welcome. I do not know whether the Marxist philosophers are there or not any more...*(Interruptions)*.... well, some of my friends have said: why unilateral? I represent the unilateralism of India. The Indian civilisation does not wait for others to react. It is not that India does not do good things only because others are not doing good things. They may or may not; I do not care. It is our own style. In Urdu there is one couplet that I remember:

"हम अपनी खू न छोड़ेंगे वह अपनी वज़ा क्यों बदले,सुबक सू हो के क्यों पूछें कि हमसे सरगरां क्यों हो।"

Why should I give up my ethos ....*(Interruptions)*.... That is the policy that we follow and will continue to follow. Response, no response—I do not care. Those people should come and see my society. I am proud of my society. I want people to come and sit in the gallery and see how our Parliament functions. I feel proud of this Parliament. I want people to come and see our dances, our dramas and our theatres. We are proud of these Indian legacies. And, therefore, why should I stand in the way? Who am I to stand in the way? Am I a good Indian if I stand in the way? Therefore, as good Indians, we are demolishing all these walls. Well, I have also been asked whether there is any agenda for the Foreign Secretaries' meeting. I am now turning more serious. Well, we are meeting, the Foreign Secretaries will be meeting after three or four years. Meeting by itself is an agenda ....*(Interruptions)*.^.. Let them meet. Let them share with each other, what is bothering each other. Let us understand each other's limitations. Gradually, perhaps. I can assure this House and I want to say it also that dramatic things are not likely to happen. But, perhaps, gradually we Vill move in that direction. After all our relations with China are not the same as they were, say, 30 years ago. Not that we have got over everything, not that problems have been solved; but feelings have changed gradually. I do remember, Sir,—if I may take the House into confidence—that in 1976 when the Chairman of this House, Mr. Narayanan,

himself was appointed Ambassador to China and it so happened by chance in 1976 that I was named as Ambassador to Moscow, in Delhi itself there was a reception in one of the hotels for both of us joint—it is an anecdote—I got up and told the audience, "Both are being set by the Prime Minister one to China and the other to the Soviet Union and one of us is bound to fail; both cannot succeed because of the quality of relationship between Russia and China is also there." By a turn of history, we both succeeded. Relationships have succeeded in a different fashion. And these are the miracles which happen sometimes historically and by pressures of the people. Therefore, when these talks are taking place, I would say, I am cautious I am optimist. I am both. I want things to improve. But, we have to safeguard the vital basic interests of India. We have to safeguard the vital interests of the people and the vital basic interests of the people are two-sovereignty of India and the secular dimension of the country. These two things are not negotiable; everything else is. Therefore, this spells our agenda. Within this agenda, if we are able to move gradually, slowly, and reach something, we can do it,

Salimji has rightly pointed out that it would be useful to reduce tariff. Sir, we live in a strange world. It is much easier to reach London than Dhaka. No direct communication. In regard to tariff, SAARC has been recommending. SAARC is the right forum for these things. We have not succeeded. If we have succeeded, we have succeeded only partially. But I think it should be done.

I accept the idea that there should be no visa fee for students also. I accept this. Straightaway, I accept this.

I accept also that historical monuments should be edded to this list. I accept this.

The point has been made that multi-entry visa for journalists should be there. I will consult my colleague. I will have to consult my colleague. We will consider it more positively.

Then, there is the question of prisoners of war. Rightly, the question has been raised. It is a matter of great concern and anxiety for us. It is not onry the question of those miserable souls who may be languishing in jail. What about their families? Their mothers. Their wives. Their children Sometimes, they come and meet me. I feel miserable. Why should these families be denied their right?

We have been raising this issue time and again, during the last thirty years. Pakistan has totally denied that there is any prisoner of war. How much of it is credible; I do not know. How far they can be believed; I do not know. But the reality is that it is a human problem. People have been coming to me, as I said. Even two days back, somebody came to me with a press-clipping. This was about somebody who is in jain in Pakistan. I just could not look into the eyes of the person. I am also a father. I am also a grandfather. I am also a husband. I am also a son. Why should there be so much misery? I - cannot bear to look at so much of misery. When misery stares in my face, I do not know how to look at it.

Sir, I can only say that our efforts would continue in that direction.

About the release of these children—the same attitude. I asked my Pakistan counterpart: 'What will you gain by keeping these children?'. We have been trying consistently, for so long. Touchwood! We have succeeded. But this is not the end of the story.

There are, approximately, 250—plus or minus—fishermen still in jail, on both sides. Last year, when the Fooreign Minister of Pakistan came here, I requested him. I told him: 'Let us have a clean slate'. What do these fishermen, poor fishermen, know? They do not know where, in the sea, the country's

border ends and where they are fishing. Therefore, they cross the area, in pursuit of their few pennies, few rupees. Instead, they land themselves in jail. Four years, ten years, they languish in jail.

Sir, the basic point is: in South Asian politics, in South Asian relationship, we will have to be humanistic. We will have to look at every problem in a humanistic sense; not in the sense of politics, not in the sense of what is written in the code book. Once we have this kind of a policy towards each other, our relationship would undergo a change. We had agreed, in the meeting in December, that both sides should release the fishermen. Yes, it has to done; it should be done. From Gujarat, from Kutch, we get representations. Everytime, again, the same family story, the same story about people who are in jail for three years, four years. What crime have these people committed? Why should we suspect everybody?

The problem with us is—I think this applies to all of us, including the law and order authorities—we assume that everyone is a scoundrel unless he is proved to be otherwise. This is a strange approach. This dose not appeal to me. Therefore, we pursue this policy. We shall continue to pursue it.

We have similar problems with Sri Lanka also. Their fishermen in our custody: Our fishermen in theit custody. Similarly, with Bangladesh. The seas are common. Seas have no walls. We have got to continue doing something about this. I hope we can agree on something.

The other point that was raised was whether there would be any agreement between the two sides. This is unilateral. I will continue this unilateral policy. I shall not seek any agreement. I shall not ask for any agreement. I shall not discuss any agreement. I will go on doing all that is possible, on behalf of all of you, keeping in mind only two restrictions. One is: the security of India would not be compromised. So long as the security of India can be safeguarded, we will do everything to create an atmosphere of amity and goodwill.

There are two-three points more.

The point was there about the places of pilgrimage in India which should be added. Well; Ajmer Sharief is there. Nizamuddin Aulia is there. We can also have Amir Khusro's shrine. There is one in Sirhind. You may be knowing. Thei., of course, at Agra there are two or three. There are some others also.

The main point is that we will go on adding to these. If somebody comes from a remote corner of Pakistan and wants to go to a shrine, why not? These are also a common heritage. Ultimately, we all believe in India. We never believe in the two-nation theory. We believe in the commonality of traditions and civilisation. We believe in commonality and shared shrines. Therefore, anybody who wants to come here for that is most welcome.

Yes, I was asked about fifty years of our Independence and exchange. Fifty years of Indian Republic is a matter of pride for us. It is a great day. My generation is now living to see this day. My generation participated in the freedom struggle. I take pride in that. I take pride in the fact that I have seen the dawn of the nation. I take pride in the fact that I am sitting in this House when we are celebrating the Fiftieth Year of our Republic.

We want all our neighbours to come and participate in it. We will invite them also. We want to share it with them. I think the Vice-President and the Speaker have already written to the Speaker of the Parliament of Pakistan to send parliamentary delegations and to come here. As a matter of fact, on track II, three years ago I had also invited them. I hope they will respond to our invitation. I hope, even if they do not respond officially to our invitation, non-official people will come. They are most welcome. If people from any part of the

world want to come and participate in our joy on the Fiftieth Year of our Republic, we will be very liberal in issuing visas to them.

We are also thinking of organising several seminars and discussions not only in terms of India seminars but also in terms of reviving the legend of the Asia Conference. Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru and Gandhiji, standing on the platform, gave us the vision of a great Asia, the vision of Afro-Asia and the vision of a great civilisation. We have covered a part of the journey. We have covered a part of the tryst and the promise which Jawaharlal Nehru had made from these Benches. We have not come the whole way, but, I think, we have not done badly. We will continue that.

I do hope that when talks with Pakistan take place, we on both sides will again realise and appreciate that both of us gain by co-operation and that both of us can be more happy if we live as good friends.

Thank you very much.

SHRI SURINDER KUMAR SINGLA: Sir, ... (*Interruptions)*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVED1): I think, Mr. Singla, we will have many more occasions to discuss this.

Thank you.

SHRI SURINDER KUMAR SINGLA: What about gurdwaras to be visited?

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL: I have received a letter from Mr. Tohra on this subject, and I have already taken it up with Pakistan.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI): Thank you, Mr. External Affairs Minister, and thank you, hon. Members, for extending your co-operation.

Now the House stands adjourned till 11-00 a.m. tomorrow.

The House then adjourned at forty-three minutes past six of the clock till eleven of the clock on Friday, the 21st March, 1997.

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